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 Sports, Page 1B



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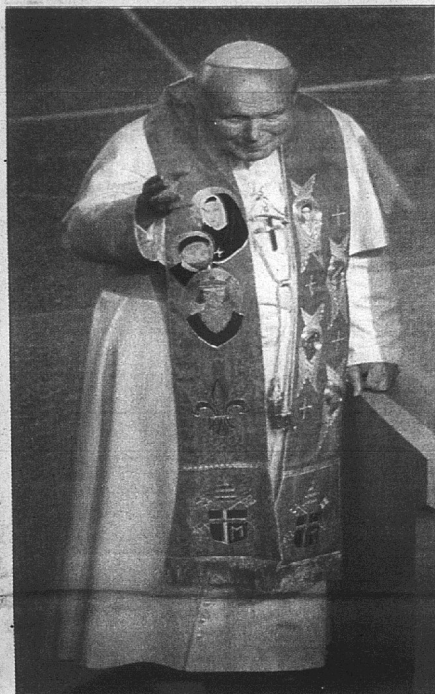
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VOLUME 23, NUMBER 9

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1999

FIFTY CENTS



Pope awes faithful

Papal visit turns Dome into cathedral

By Clayton Berry
 Staff writer

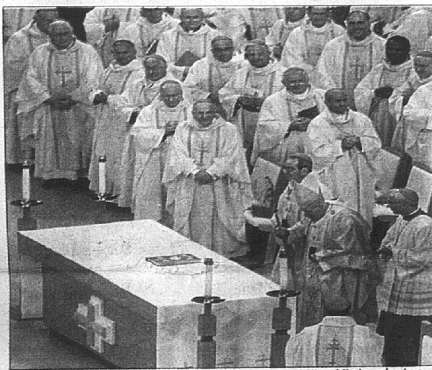
Despite a ceiling that is 120-foot high, the hulking Trans World Dome felt like a warm, inviting church on Jan. 27 as tens of thousands of the faithful celebrated Mass with Pope John Paul II.

More on pope's visit, Page 2A, 7B

one roof in U.S. history. The staging was inspiring. A 45-foot-high brushed aluminum replica of the Gateway Arch flickered in the lights. A 35-foot-tall wooden cross hung from the ceiling. Columns topped with frosted globes reached to the ceiling. But all of this did not overwhelm the simple altar on the stage. It was adorned

with a plain white cloth, and when the choir began to sing, the dome really began to feel like a church. The stadium was awash with vibrant color. Blue processional banners waved. Hundreds of volunteer ushers in yellow vests helped people to their seats. Shortly after 8 a.m. the priests, nuns and bishops began to enter the dome. They walked with ritual in mind and wore

See MASS, Page 2A



Pope John Paul II, above, acknowledges the huge crowd as he walks onstage at the Youth Rally Tuesday at St. Louis' Kiel Center. At right, surrounded by bishops and cardinals, the pope approaches the altar to prepare for Communion during Mass at the Trans World Dome on Wednesday. At immediate left of the pope is Archbishop Justin Rigali.

Spectators waited hours for glimpse

Thousands turn out to see pope

By Jim Merkel
 Staff writer

After standing six hours to see the pope, Lou Bird placed a cellular telephone call to his mother in Wisconsin to describe the scene as the pope passed by. It was not a long conversation. Along with thousands of others who stood on Lindell Boulevard as Pope John Paul II came from Lambert-St. Louis International Airport on Jan. 26, he had to turn his head quickly to get a glimpse of the pontiff. The rapid pace of the motorcade from Washington University to the archbishop's residence disappointed many

of those who were standing along the parade route. So did a similar quick pace of the motorcade later that day as it whisked the pope Downtown for a youth rally at the Kiel Center. But immediately after the motorcade passed Bird's vantage point at 3:38 p.m. on Jan. 26, he said the experience was worth it to get a chance to see the pope.

"It was wonderful," said Bird, who waited with his friend, John Inciostro of the Carondelet neighborhood on the South Side. Bird, who teaches costume design at Southwest Missouri

See MOTORCADE, Page 2A

Mitchell incorporation petition thrown out

Bono cites recent GC annexations; supporters vow to fight on

By Dennis Grubaugh
 Staff writer

A Madison County judge dashed the hopes of Mitchell residents when he threw out a petition seeking to incorporate the community into a village. Recent annexations by the neighboring communities of Edwardsville and Granite City brought the number of residents needed for incorporation below the 7,500 minimum required by statute, Chief Associate Judge Randall Bono said Thursday.

That once the population represented by the Granite City annexation and the Edwardsville annexations has been removed from the incorporator's petition, the population of the putative village is only 7,251 and so is insufficient to meet the statutory requirement," Bono wrote in his order. The petition was dismissed with prejudice, meaning it cannot be refilled. The case, however, can be appealed, although there was no indication Thursday that an alternative was in the offing. Bono addressed various points of contention that had been brought up by Mitchell attorney James Sinclair during

a long hearing Monday. Among other things, Sinclair had argued that the Granite City annexations had not been published in newspaper or pamphlet form after the fact, as he believes was legally required. However, Bono ruled that the language Granite City used in its incorporation ordinance covered it from having to publish in such fashion. "Therefore, no newspaper or pamphlet publication was required for the ordinances to become effective," Bono said. He also noted that Mitchell's proposed 7.28-square-mile map was no longer valid because of the recent annexations. "The proposed incorporation

map is made inaccurate by the inclusion of territory validly annexed to the city of Granite City as well as territory annexed by the city of Edwardsville or validly under pre-annexation agreement with Edwardsville." The Granite City annexation petitions were filed before the time of the incorporation and take priority. Bono ruled, although at least one Mitchell supporter said Mitchell's effort was well under way when Granite City annexed dozens of properties last fall. "You can't be a fortune

See MITCHELL, Page 6A



Meeting the people
 Rep. Jerry Costello (D-Bellefonte), left, talks with Granite City resident Louise Gwasadac Thursday. Costello was at Madison City Hall to conduct office hours and meet with constituents on a wide range of topics.

Tim Stephenson photo

Madison officials planning big push for lead cleanups

By Scott Cousins
 Staff writer

Madison city officials are planning to push for residents in the Taracorp superfund site area to have their property tested for lead. At Tuesday's City Council meeting Mayor John Hamm said they would be obtaining a

list of properties that have either not been tested or where owners have refused cleanup. The 16-acre NL Industries-Taracorp site was a secondary lead smelter and refining plant from 1903 until 1983. Lead contamination from the site, including airborne smelter stack emissions and battery chips, have been identified in a number of residential areas in Granite City, as well as unincorporated

Eagle Park Acres, Madison and Venice. In Madison, the affected area is generally located between Sixth Street and Granite City. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency held several public meetings in the Tri-Cities area recently to sign up residents for testing. Building Inspector George Hlava and Health Inspector George Amisch attended one of

those meetings. Hlava said that in addition to health concerns, if contaminated property is not cleaned up, it may be difficult to sell later because banks would not finance it. "We need to approach these people and convince them they need to clean up the property," he said.

See MADISON, Page 6A

Granite City Journal

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Back to the future
 Concept cars have roots in the past
 see Auto section

Side: Volume 23, Number 9, 1999. What's going on: Super Bowl Food Time, Page 1C. What's going on: Granite City faces tall task against SWC rival Tigers, Sports, Page 1B. What's going on: Granite City Steel & Community Federal Credit Union. Membership makes the difference. Turn to us for competitive savings, low-cost loans, and a variety of financial services. Telephone Centers: 797-7993 • 3970 Maryville Rd. • Lee Avenue & 20th Street. What's going on: Pope John Paul II. What's going on: Spectators waited hours for glimpse. Thousands turn out to see pope. What's going on: Mitchell incorporation petition thrown out. Bono cites recent GC annexations; supporters vow to fight on. What's going on: Madison officials planning big push for lead cleanups. What's going on: Meeting the people. Rep. Jerry Costello (D-Bellefonte), left, talks with Granite City resident Louise Gwasadac Thursday. Costello was at Madison City Hall to conduct office hours and meet with constituents on a wide range of topics. What's going on: Granite City Journal. What's going on: fairWeather 5. Granite City's weather source for the latest forecast. Scott Connell, Meteorologist. KSDQ-TV, NewsChannel 5 Weather Source Team. What's going on: Irwin Chapel. "thoughtfulness, always." 931-8000. What's going on: Back to the future. Concept cars have roots in the past. see Auto section.

News

Pope's historic homily addresses weighty issues

Pontiff invites former Catholics back into faith during Mass at Trans World Dome

By Clayton Berry
Staff writer

The voice of Pope John Paul II echoed through the Trans World Dome on Wednesday as he delivered a hopeful and challenging homily during a historic Mass.

More than 104,000 people listened to the pope's message in the dome and Cervantes Convention Center. They remained hushed during parts of the homily, but would explode with cheers when the pope touched upon certain subjects.

"Three hundred years have passed since Dec. 8, 1693, when the holy sacrifice of the Mass was offered for the first time in what is now the City of St. Louis," the pope said. "These three centuries have been a history of God's love poured out in this part of the United States and a history of generous response to that love."

The pope commended the

charitable activities of the Catholic Church here, from the St. Vincent de Paul Society to Catholic Charities to health care services. Calling the local Catholic schools of "priceless value to generations of children," the pope was met with rousing applause.

During his homily, the pope addressed issues very close to his heart. They are the issues, he said, that members of the "new evangelization" must deal with as the millennium approaches.

ON FAMILY:
"In their primary mission of communicating love to each other, of being co-creators with God of human life, and of transmitting the love of God to their children, parents must know that they are fully supported by the church and by society. The new evangelization must bring a fuller appreciation of the family as the primary and most vital foundation of

"I renew the appeal I made most recently at Christmas for a consensus to end the death penalty, which is both cruel and unnecessary."

Pope John Paul II

society, the first school of social virtue and solidarity. As the family goes, so goes the nation."

ON ABORTION AND ASSISTED SUICIDE:

"As believers, how can we fail to see that abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide are a terrible reflection of God's gift and love? The new evangelization calls for followers

of Christ who are unconditionally pro-life: who will proclaim, celebrate and serve the gospel of life in every situation."

ON THE DEATH PENALTY:

"A sign of hope is the increasing recognition that the dignity of human life must never be taken away, even in the case of someone who has done great evil. Modern society has the means of protecting itself, without definitively denying criminals the chance to reform. I renew the appeal I made most recently at Christmas for a consensus to end the death penalty, which is both cruel and unnecessary."

ON RACISM:

"As the new millennium approaches, there remains another great challenge facing this community of St. Louis, east and west of the Mississippi, and not St.

Louis alone, but the whole country: to put an end to every form of racism, a plague which your bishops have called one of the most persistent and destructive evils of the nation."

Though the pope sometimes coughed during the homily and his voice weakened, the conviction in his eyes never wavered.

"In the name of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, I wish to make an appeal — an appeal to Catholics throughout the United States and wherever my voice or words may reach, especially to those who for one reason or another are separated from the practice of their faith."

"On the eve of the Great Jubilee of the 2,000th anniversary of the Incarnation, Christ is seeking you out and inviting you back to the community of faith. Is this not the moment for you to experience the joy of returning to the Father's house?"

Papal mass at Dome awes area faithful Rabbi makes history with papal reading

Continued from Page 1A

ceremonial gowns.

At 9:15 the pope entered the convention center, where some 30,000 followers had gathered. When the pope's image appeared for the first time on four Jumbotron-style monitors hanging from the dome ceiling, the crowds erupted in cheers. The gospel choir raised the roof with a rousing "Credo."

A hush fell on the crowd. Most people remained on their feet. When the stadium audience caught a glimpse of the pope's entourage entering the building at 9:30, their roars exploded again. The cheers followed the pontiff as his popemobile rounded the dome floor. Some of the 20,000-plus people sitting on the dome floor ran to the edges of the seating to catch a closer glimpse.

Shortly before 9:45, the crowd, including the media, rose for the beginning of the Mass. A few minutes later, Secret Service agents ushered the pope from a space behind the stage to another wave of applause. From the heights of the upper levels, people shouted, "We love you, John Paul II" and "John Paul pray for us."

And that he did.

"Peace be with you," the pope said.

"And also with you," the congregation responded in unison.

Archbishop Justin F. Rigali, as he had many times during the visit, thanked the pope for gracing the city with his presence.

"God has brought you here, and we believe our prayers are answered on this beautiful day," Rigali told the pope.

"Your zeal for the gospel has brought you from St. Louis to America."

Some of the songs heard were traditional, such as "Kyrie." The music for the "Gloria" was commissioned specifically for this papal visit.

Despite the grandeur, the Mass reflected the ceremony observed in churches throughout the world. Readings and psalms were read.

Recognizing the international importance of the event, the Prayer of the Faithful was read in English, Spanish, German, French, Vietnamese and Polish.

St. Louis history was well represented.

During the Mass, the pope used the same chalice used by three priests on the western banks of the Mississippi more than 300 years ago. Other sacred vessels

were used, including a chalice, which was part of the first baptism in St. Louis.

Shortly after 11 a.m., in absolute precision, hundreds of priests distributed Holy Communion to the worshippers. It took less than 30 minutes. Ushers carrying yellow and white papal umbrellas stood by the priests so the massive crowds could see receive Communion from the pope himself. Among them were former St. Louis Alderman Martin Abousiss and his wife, LeEllen. Now the city's public safety director, Abousiss is a devout Catholic. As he approached the pope, he kept his hands clasped in front of him.

"It is the greatest honor of my life," he said.

The pope took time to return the thanks to Rigali. During the Mass he also gave thanks in several languages as the foreign-speaking followers reacted with joy.

"I very much appreciate your enthusiasm," John Paul II said.

As the dome filled with deafening applause, the pope raised his hand one last time to acknowledge the outpouring of love, and then he was gone.

By Ande Yakstis
Staff writer

Rabbi Robert Jacobs, former leader of Temple Israel in Godfrey, made history Wednesday when he took part in a prayer service with Pope John Paul II.

Jacobs, 90, read the Jewish scripture from the prophet Isaiah at the Cathedral Basilica in St. Louis.

"It's extraordinary," Jacobs said. "Never in the history of any pope has a Jewish rabbi ever been invited to read in a basilica service with a pope anywhere in the world."

Jacobs was the leader for 32 years at Temple Israel in Godfrey, a synagogue attended by Jewish people throughout Madison County.

"Rabbi Jacobs is a great spiritual leader, and we are happy that he was selected to read at the pope's prayer service," said Dr. Harry Mendelsohn, former president of the Temple Israel congregation.

"Rabbi Jacobs has many friends throughout the Alton area and is loved by the people," Mendelsohn said.

Jacobs wore his tallit, a blue and white prayer shawl, and kippa, a skull cap, as he read the words from chapter 35 of Isaiah: "And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion singing."

"It's a joyful text about the redemption returning to Zion," said Jacobs, who reads it privately as a promise of a

time when goodness thrives on earth.

Catholics read it at the Easter Vigil service as part of Christ's promise of heavenly redemption.

St. Louis Archbishop Justin Rigali personally invited Jacobs to participate in the prayer service with the pope.

"The invitation to me, a rabbi, to read the scripture in the service is a historic step forward in the relationship between the pope and Jews in the country," said Jacobs.

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Papal motorcade moves quickly past crowds

Continued from Page 1A

State University in Springfield, drove to St. Louis to see the parade and stayed with Inchiostro.

The two were standing at the temporary orange fence along Lindell just west of Union Boulevard and the Cabanne House.

By the time the popemobile passed by, the crowd was two or three deep west of the Cabanne House, and someone who came at the last minute could have seen the motorcade.

Those who did come early passed the sunny day watching children play, hearing hawkers sell pope buttons and listening to people talk about the pope's arrival on portable radios.

Jim Stephens of Godfrey, Ill., listened to a radio while his wife, Rosemary, held a miniature TV receiver broadcasting the meeting of the pope and President Bill Clinton. Jim Stephens wondered out loud if the president would take the opportunity to go to confession.

Mary Holubasch, a Tower Grove East neighborhood resident who came with family members, said she was there because she's Catholic, and it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

"I was very excited," said Holubasch, a medical technologist. "My heart was beating like a rabbit. I'd do it again in a heartbeat. Six hours for 15 seconds."

Holubasch's niece, Nichole Holubasch, a fifth-grader living in Troy, Ill., also was happy with the experience.

"It was pretty cool," Nichole said.

Also watching the motorcade at the temporary orange fence was Robert Parker, a computer programmer from Champaign, Ill.

"I think it'll probably be pretty emotional when he goes by," Parker said several hours before the pastoral parade came.

Afterward, Parker said he was impressed by "the fact that he was alert, and he waved and he smiled."

Nearby, Pat Carosello had a different impression.

"I wish he had gone slower. It was neat seeing him, but I wish he would have gone a little bit slower," said Carosello, a teacher at St. Mary's High School on the South Side.

"It was too fast, but it was exciting," said Cathy Mann, a homemaker.

Both members of St. Stephen Protomartyr Catholic Church in south St. Louis, Mann and Carosello brought several children with them to view the motorcade.

"We just wanted to give the kids the experience of seeing the pope," Mann said.

Close by were Joseph Barnowski Sr. of Oakville, who was seeing the parade with his wife, Sally, and their children.

"I think it's too good to be true, to have the pope come to St. Louis, when he's got the whole world to pick from," Barnowski Sr. said.

"It's pretty exciting seeing all the people and coming to see the pope, and it's a new experience for me," said Joseph Barnowski Jr., a junior at St. Mary's High School.

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By Paul Mackie
Staff writer

Madison County
Fred Bath's spe

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Heated words

Madison County La.

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County approves audit of Bathon's spending

By Paul Mackie
Staff writer

Madison County officials have voted to audit Fred Bathon's spending when he was auditor.

MADISON COUNTY

Bathon, now Madison County treasurer, told County Board members Thursday they are

"misinformed." Heated words were exchanged in the Madison County Administration Building between Bathon and members of the Finance Committee, which voted 5-0 to hire an independent auditing firm to review Bathon's former office.

"This is a personal issue, and you are misinformed at what you're doing," Bathon told committee members. Two weeks ago, chief deputy auditor Pete Fields and other county officials determined that something needed to be done about some "questionable expenses."

Heated words exchanged with committee

The County Board then authorized the committee to seek a firm.

Officials' concerns include nearly \$20,000 spent on furniture and equipment for the treasurer's office that was charged to last year's budget for the auditor.

But Bathon said the expenditures were necessary on a timely basis to "hit the ground running" when he switched offices in early December.

Finance Committee member Alan Dunstan, D-Troy, disagreed. He said Bathon had led the committee to believe the expenditures were for the auditor's office.

"You do not take auditor's money and spend it on the treasurer's office," Dunstan said. "That money should be charged to the treasurer."

Dunstan added that he's tired of his

committee being "a referee" between Bathon and Bathon's successor as auditor, H. Jack Frandsen.

Other members of the committee agreed with Dunstan. "We acted on some discrepancies," said Finance Committee member Rick Faccin, D-Alton.

"This committee and the County Board deemed that there could be a number of questionable expenditures."

Bathon argued that this kind of audit has never been done before. The county has an annual audit by the firm of Peat Marwick that covers all departments for \$72,000.

The independent audit of the auditor's office by Scheffel and Co. of Edwardsville will take up to 60 hours to complete at a cost of between \$4,000 and \$5,500.

"They're spending money for an audit that's

already been paid for," Bathon said. Finance Committee member Don Rea, D-Granite City, asked Frandsen if the money simply could be placed back into the auditor's budget.

But Frandsen and State's Attorney William Haine said the cost would be worth it to the county to have these questions about the auditor's office answered.

"The only reason (Bathon's) against it is the auditors might find something wrong," Frandsen said.

Bathon said he can answer any questions by county officials without the cost of the audit. "They're all county assets out of the general fund," he said. "They're arguing what floor (the furniture and other items are) sitting on. They just spent \$5,500 to settle it."

Bathon and Frandsen have argued since November, when Bathon said Frandsen wasn't qualified to be appointed auditor.

IDOT planning lane restrictions

Illinois Department of Transportation has the following lane restrictions for the week of Feb. 1:
St. Clair County — Illinois 203 northbound from eastbound 1-55-70 will be detoured via the southbound route. 203 ramp in order to rehabilitate two bridges. Work will be completed in May.

1-55-70 at Illinois 203 will have daytime lane closures in both directions in order to renovate the bridge.

Bi-State surprised by week's low ridership

Things went smoothly during pope's visit, transit official says

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Bi-State Development Agency officials were "kind of surprised" by the low numbers of papal sightseers, but were pleased that everything appeared to have went smoothly.

At Thursday's Madison County Transit Board meeting, Bi-State representative Tom Sturgess said it appeared that ridership for the two-day papal visit would be lower than expected.

"We were kind of surprised," he said. "We don't have numbers yet, but it appears ridership was lower than expected."

"Somebody did a good job of scaring people off — I hope it wasn't us," he said. Planning transportation issues relating to the papal visit took several months, and Sturgess said things went very well.

"We were prepared for anything, but as it turns out, we had a lot of time for socializing," he said. "Even if the crowd was two or three times as large, I think we would have been OK."

He said many Bi-State officials had spent at least one night in their office at Laclede's Landing to be ready for the papal rush.

In other business, the board approved extending the district's contract with Grandone-Hausler Inc. to produce the

RideFinders newsletter.

Managing Director Jerry Kane said the states of Missouri and Illinois had both extended funding for the program until at least the fall of 2000.

RideFinders was established in 1994 to help reduce traffic congestion and vehicle emissions in the St. Louis region. The program serves employers and commuters in the city of St. Louis and seven counties: St. Louis, Jefferson, St. Charles and Franklin in Missouri and Madison, St. Clair and Monroe in Illinois.

The board also approved a bid of \$74,880 for a bus for Challenge Unlimited. The board also approved providing transportation for Focus St. Louis, a leadership group that would be visiting several Metro-East sites.

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By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

The Madison County Transit District Board approved the purchase of what will become the Collinsville transit center, one of several "hubs" used by the district. MCT Director Jerry Kane said the final price has not been set because they have not had an appraiser at the site, which is

owned by Mercantile Bank.

The proposed center — to be at the intersection of Clay and Clinton — was the subject of controversy after the Collinsville City Council originally decided to oppose the location. Council members had said they would prefer commercial development at the site.

At the time, MCT Managing Director Jerry Kane said that MCT would not go

ahead with the plans without city approval, and that would mean they would be unable to develop a Collinsville hub.

"We had a clock on funds," he said. Thursday, referring to federal funding of the project. "It was either that site or no site."

The Collinsville City Council reversed its decision at a meeting Monday.

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Letters to the Editor
East Side Publications, Attn. Letters,
1815 Delmar, Granite City, Ill 62040

Guest Column

It's the worth of the pro athlete, stupid!

Like it or not, sports
figures earn their money

By Mike Grubb

At the risk of beating a dead horse, I am going to disperse my thoughts on multi-million dollar contracts being signed by sports figures in today's market.

To be honest, when I sat down to the keyboard, I had every intention of jumping on the liberal bandwagon and saying that no one deserves to make that kind of money, least of all an adult playing a child's game.

Fortunately, common sense prevailed, and even though I find myself envious of their situation, I can't deny they deserve every penny their employers care to part with.

Labor is a valuable commodity that is bartered on the open market. Anyone is free to charge whatever they want for their labor and they will receive whatever the economy dictates.

Walter Williams, an economics professor and occasional host of the Rush Limbaugh radio show, has a brilliant yet simple description of how the economy works.

I will paraphrase it in this way: Suppose you need your grass mowed. I am available and we agree on the terms.

It is worth \$20 to you to have me mow your grass. I fire up the mower and one hour later, you have a perfectly manicured lawn.

I have done a service to you and ultimately, to your neighbors. You then hand me a \$20 bill. That \$20 bill is my "certificate of proof" that I performed a service to mankind in some way.

I can then take that \$20 bill and go to my local grocery store. After putting some things in the cart, I go through the checkout line and the worth of my selections are tallied. Amazingly, enough the total is \$20.

"The cashier then asks me if I have done \$20 worth of service to mankind and I pull out my "certificate of proof," known as a \$20 bill, and hand it to her. We are even.

Mr. Williams then goes on to describe how people who steal or people who collect a fat government check and perform no labor or service totally screw up the economy, but that is fodder for another column.

So yes, I will reluctantly say that the mega-star athletes deserve the big paychecks because the people who write them obviously feel they are worth it.

Do they perform a service? Sure they do. They entertain us. We spend an enjoyable night at the ballpark with our families watching the Cardinals' Mark McGwire. We hang on the edge of our seat at the Blues' Al MacInnis winds up for his formidable slapshot. We marvel at the precision passing of the Rams' Tony Banks.

OK, two out of three ain't bad.

Now, we get back to that economy thing. On a small scale, the athletes are fun to watch, so we buy a ticket to the game, giving the team owner our "certificate of proof" he has provided us with a service, entertainment.

On the grand scale, there are millions more of us buying those tickets every day and, the bigger the star, the more tickets we buy.

More people in the stadium mean more beer and hot dogs are sold. The bigger the star, the more merchandise we buy with their name on it, and the money begins to flow.

So, you see, if the owner calculates correctly, he will end up with many more "certificates" than he has to pay out. It is a risk, but wouldn't you give me \$20 to mow your lawn if you thought you could win a \$30 prize for the best-looking lawn in the neighborhood contest?

Mike Grubb is a superintendent with Columbia Quarry Co. He lives in Waterloo with his wife and two children.

Journal Letters to the Editor policy

The Granite City Journal encourages its readership to voice their opinions on current issues by writing a letter to the editor. Letters must be no more than 350 words and include your name and city.

Send your letters to Letters to the Editor, Granite City Journal, 1815 Delmar, Granite City, Ill., 62040, or to Journals of Southern Illinois, 219 N. Illinois, Belleville, Ill., 62220.

Lowering blood-alcohol limit just waste of time

By David S. Koehr

A wise man once said, "to keep from getting shot, don't put on a bulletproof vest, but rather, take the bullets out of the gun." This analogy was meant to illustrate the best approach to solving a problem.

Sadly, as a society, we are more inclined to symbolically fill our closets with vests rather than unloading our weapons. One example is our approach to highway fatalities.

Last year, a local newspaper presented a completely one-sided argument from Dr. Mary Case, a medical examiner, which favored lowering the legal blood-alcohol content allowed in drivers to .08 percent.

At first glance, this may seem to be a plea to take the bullets out of the gun, but closer scrutiny reveals it to be still another politically fashionable vest.

Case stated 22 percent of alcohol-related fatalities occur when the blood-alcohol level of the driver was below the current Missouri legal limit of 10 percent.

Of course that number translates into lives, but what of the other 78 percent? Current legal blood-alcohol limits obviously are not affecting that overwhelming majority.

After Susan Gutweiler's tragic death, that newspaper

ran an article which seemed to "discover" that most fatalities occurred when the driver had a blood-alcohol content much higher than the legal limit.

Case also extensively addressed when impairment begins to support the notion of lowering the legal limit. What is ludicrous about this argument is that lack of impairment is not even a licensing criterion.

You can operate a vehicle while exhausted, visually impaired, hearing impaired, elderly or just plain stupid. All of these states can impair ability but none are illegal.

Why is one form of impairment illegal but others not? The point is not really alcohol or impairment. Rather, it is fatalities. Of the ways to attack this problem, lowering the current blood-alcohol limit should be last.

Whatever percentage of deaths are alcohol-involved, "involved" also includes incidents where the driver was not the drinker! One thing is certainly true: 100 percent of the accidents are caused by poor driving.

The relatively benign conditions under which you take the driver's test allows only a cursory assessment of ability. Reaction time is not measured in any real fashion. The first thing we should do is establish much higher

standards and requirements for licensing.

Personally, I have never been hit by a drunken driver, but I have been hit numerous times by someone who only needed to answer 15 of 20 test questions correctly (75 percent), drive around a couple of blocks, then parallel park.

We should provide training material to parents who still want to teach their children to drive. Specific learning objectives aimed at producing a knowledgeable, safe driver should be established.

Achievement of these learning objectives should be verified by a one to 200-question written exam, for which the minimum passing grade would be 85 percent.

Both the written and practical application portion should require some basic understanding of the mechanical aspects of motor vehicles. Entering, driving on and exiting an interstate highway and night driving should be included.

Also, most drivers should have to take the written exam every five years and the driving portion every 10 years. Before age 25 and after age 65, actual drive-testing should be required every two years.

Of course this would cost more, but I am certain that a more demanding exam process, with an associated

higher fee, would make people respect this privilege more and abuse it less.

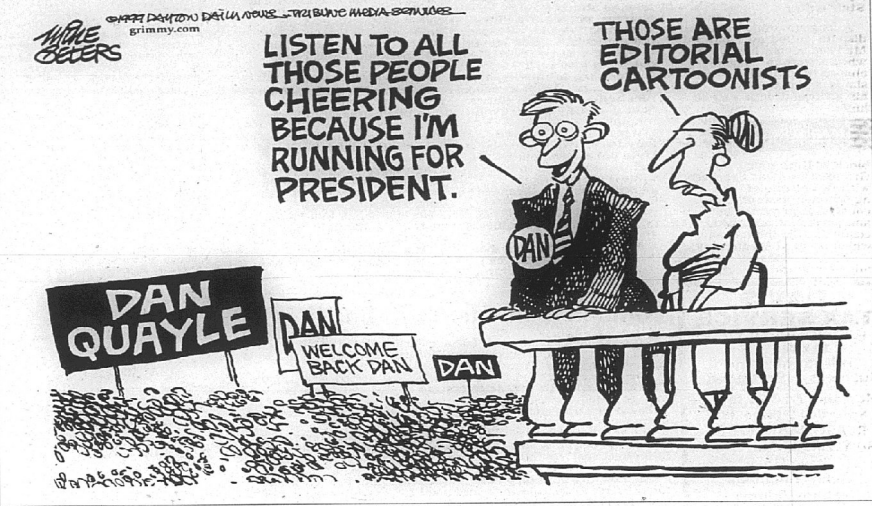
Most importantly, the savings in lives, injuries and property damage would be invaluable.

Another measure that should be taken is our attitude toward speeding. Police officers, the National Transportation Safety Board and other sources will tell you the number one contributing factor to accidents is excessive speed. This may mean violation of the posted limit or merely excessive for the road conditions, weather and light.

Yet we really don't do anything to stop it. Sure, there are officers patrolling and stopping drivers, but if we really want to stop speeding, it should carry a \$1,000 fine or 30 days in jail and loss of license for 90 days. Obviously, most people don't mind the current system of fines.

These changes many not completely remove the bullets from the gun, but they would establish a structure of safe practices that would certainly reduce the bloody vests we continue to pick up on our highways.

David S. Koehr is a St. Louis Hills resident. In this commentary, taken from the South Side Journal, Mr. Koehr discusses his views on the blood-alcohol limit. In Illinois, the blood-alcohol limit is currently .08.



It's shappy happy fun time up in Springfield

But what will happen when Gov. Ryan has to start saying 'no'?



Rich Miller

Ryan also held out a hand to Hispanics and African-Americans. And the downstaters believe he will cut the deals to help them do good things for the folks back home.

And, of course, everyone is thrilled to finally be rid of Gov. Jim Edgar.

Edgar was very popular with the voters, but the folks who work under the Statehouse dome disliked him. He never treated the General Assembly as a co-equal branch of government.

He never developed any personal relationships with the members, leaving the distinct impression that he didn't particularly care for any of them. He refused to dirty his hands with backroom deals.

And he didn't drink, which is a light.

practically a crime among politicians. Republicans and Democrats alike spent eight years muttering under their collective breath about the guy.

On the other hand, "George" knows many, many legislators on a first-name basis. He enjoys their company and seeks them out. He loves to cut deals, and, of course, he enjoys the occasional adult beverage.

Jim Edgar did his best to avoid the Statehouse crowd. George Ryan is king of the insiders, and they love their leader.

So it was party time in Springfield all week. My liver may never recover.

Ryan received thunderous bipartisan applause wherever he went. He spoke constantly of bringing people together and working with everyone to forge a better state. After our just-completed years of national partisan squalor, Ryan was like a breath of fresh air.

What's the downside to all of this?

Well, for the legislature, working with Jim Edgar was like being shipped off to one of those Spartan boarding schools run by pale, humorless people with no lips. Working with "George" is like being sent to live with your favorite uncle.

Jim Edgar excelled in saying "no," but Ryan has always had trouble with that word.

Too many of his friends ran over him over the years because they knew he was such a soft touch. He'll have to be very careful not to let that happen with the General

Assembly. There's a good reason why Jim Edgar kept his distance from the state's 177 legislators. No matter how much you give them, it's never enough, and they don't often stop to think about how much anything costs.

And even if they do, they usually demand that their pet projects receive higher priority than everyone else's. Rather than tell each of them "no" a hundred times a week, Edgar locked his door, pulled down the shades and told his bodyguards to keep those people away from him.

Right now, expectations are so stratospherically high that Ryan may not be able to live up to them once the euphoria starts to die down.

Everyone steadfastly believes that George will do great things for them, and once they get it, they will expect even more, and then more, and more, and more.

Eventually, Uncle George is going to have to say "no" or risk bankrupting the state.

The trick will be finding a way to turn people down without turning them against him. It will be his toughest assignment.

But, for the time being, "Georgemania" is still in full swing in Springfield.

Party on.

Rich Miller is an independent journalist who covers government issues for the Illinois Press Association.

Granite City Journal

Published twice weekly by Suburban Newspapers of Greater St. Louis
Advertising manager **Bruce Prediger**
Managing editor **David Feld**
News editor **Nicole Vaughn**
City editor **Scott Cousins**
Copy editor **Brent Feeney**
Sports editor **Toby Carrig**

Suburban Newspapers of Greater St. Louis
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Circulation audited and certified by **CAC**
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Domestic Madison

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A long-standing dispute spilled over Madison school when a woman chased her husband who is separating from his girlfriend with a knife.

MADISON

block of Kathy Granite City, with two count aggravated assault, count of aggravated assault and one count of conduct after which occurred. All of the misdemeanors.

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NEW

Domestic dispute spreads to Madison school; one arrested

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A long-standing domestic dispute spilled over into a Madison school last week when a woman allegedly chased her husband—who she is separated from—and his girlfriend with a steak knife.

MADISON Linda Walker, 29, of the 4000 block of Kathy Drive in Granite City, was charged with two counts of aggravated assault, one count of aggravated battery and one count of disorderly conduct after the incident, which occurred Wednesday. All of the charges are misdemeanors. Detective

Steve Shelby said they had tried to obtain felony charges, but state statutes regarding "deadly" weapons did not include steak knives. Walker was released after posting a \$300 cash bond. According to reports, at about 9 a.m., Madison police received a call from Harris School about a subject with a knife.

When officers arrived, they found Walker holding a knife but pinned against the wall by another woman while a man—later identified as her estranged husband—stood nearby. Walker then allegedly tried to stab the man, but officers disarmed her. Witnesses told police that the man and his girlfriend had come to the school to

enroll her son in classes, but Walker came in and slapped the man, then pulled the knife out of her purse and started chasing the couple. Police said Walker and her husband had been separated for several months and had an ongoing feud.

In other area crime news, Venice police are investigating an alleged robbery that left a man with a broken arm.

According to officers, the man was found standing on Market Street at about 1:50 a.m. Thursday.

He told police that two suspects—identified as older black men with beards—had drug him several blocks in their car before letting him go.

Pontoon annexation gets board's OK

An ordinance annexing a 4.52-acre tract slated to be a new subdivision was approved by the Pontoon Beach Village Board in a short meeting Tuesday.

The property, owned by Al Demster, is located at 4150 Old Chain of Rocks Road near Interstate 270. It will come into the village zoned for industrial use.

The board also approved a new version of its utility tax ordinance.

The tax—one of the village's major sources of revenue—has been revised several times since utility deregulation went into effect last year. The ordinance sets rates based on total number of kilowatt-hours used per month.

The new tax structure runs from .4994 cents per kilowatt hour for the first 2,000 kilowatt hours used to .24 cents per kilowatt hour for businesses using more than 20 million kilowatt hours per month.

The board also approved a business license for a new owner of the former Hard Body Gym at 3692 Illinois 111.

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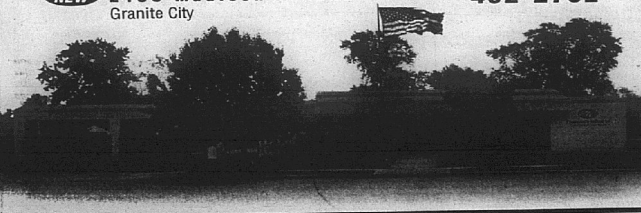
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Obituaries

James Allen

JAMES H. ALLEN, 76, of Hamel, formerly of Granite City, died Wednesday, Jan. 27, 1999, at St. Anthony's Health Center in Alton.

Mr. Allen was born Nov. 14, 1922, in Indian Mound, Tenn. He was a retired carpenter with Local 633. Mr. Allen was a World War II U.S. Navy veteran.

Survivors include his wife, Gahara "Gay" (Webb) Allen, three children, James Allen Jr. of Bunker Hill, Elizabeth Pavish of Lambburg, Va., and Bobby Allen of California; five grandchildren, Amber, Jason, Jessica, Sharon, and Willie; eight step-grandchildren; and seven great-step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Carmen (McGovern) Allen; and one step-daughter, Sharon Day.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today, Sunday, Jan. 31, at Mercer Mortuary, 1416 Niedringhaus, Granite City.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 1, at the funeral home in Granite City, with the Rev. A.J. Maggos officiating. Burial will be in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis.

Memorials may be made to Open Door Fellowship.

Katherine Bugg
KATHERINE (GRAWITCH) BUGG, 36, of Swansea, died Wednesday, Jan. 27, 1999, at St. Luke's Hospital in Chesterfield, Mo.

She was born Jan. 4, 1961, in East St. Louis. Mrs. Bugg was a

sales assistant with Advest in Chesterfield, Mo., and was a member of St. Albert the Great Parish in Fairview Heights.

Survivors include her husband, Thomas Bugg; two sons, Thomas Bugg Jr. and Timothy Bugg, both at home; her mother, Eileen Grawitch of Fairview Heights; her grandmother, Irene Solessa of Fairview Heights; and Mildred Bugg of Offshoot, two sisters, Donna Humphreys of Fairview Heights and Vickie Grawitch of St. Peters, Mo.; eight brothers, Joseph Grawitch Jr. of Barnhart, Mo., William Grawitch of St. Louis, Andrew Grawitch and Matthew Grawitch, both of Fairview Heights, John Grawitch of Mascoutah, Chris Grawitch of Borden, Ind., Michael Grawitch of Troy, and Patrick Grawitch of Columbia; and one grandchild, Marissa Bugg.

She was preceded in death by her father, Joseph Grawitch Sr.

Services were held Saturday, Jan. 30, proceeding from Kassy Mortuary in Fairview Heights to St. Albert the Great Church in Fairview Heights for a Mass of Christian burial, with the Rev. James Long officiating. Burial was in Valhalla Gardens of Memory in Belleville.

Memorials may be made to the Schindler Fund of St. Albert the Great Church, 15 Lincoln Highway, Fairview Heights, Ill. 62208.

Helen Takmajan
HELEN (GROTE) TAKMAJAN, 82, of Granite City, died Thursday, Jan. 28, 1999, at her residence.

Mrs. Takmajan was born Jan. 15, 1917, in Bowling Green, Mo. She

was a homemaker and worked for First Presbyterian Church in house-keeping. She was a past president of Washington School PTA and taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School at the Lincoln Place Mission.

Survivors include her son, Greg Takmajan of Granite City; two daughters, Clara Waterson and Dona Pierce, both of Granite City; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Takmajan, on April 4, 1962; her parents, John and Laverta (Kelly) Grote; one son, Edward Takmajan; one daughter, Rosey Takmajan; two brothers, Hurley Grote and John Grote; and four sisters, Alvena, Priscilla Bailey, Kathleen Burns, and Clara McGowan.

Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. today, Sunday, Jan. 31, at Irwin Chapel, 3060 Maryville Road, Granite City, with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 1, at the funeral home in Granite City, with the Rev. Dr. Lewis Trotter officiating. Burial will be in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Memorials may be made to Madison County Hospice or to the donor's choice.

School Menus

Granite City

MONDAY, Feb. 1 — Breakfast: French toast sticks with syrup, sliced apples, milk; Lunch: Pizza, tossed salad with light dressing, pineapple chunks, milk.

TUESDAY, Feb. 2 — Breakfast: Pop Tarts, orange wedges, milk; Lunch: Barbecued ham on bun, Skroodis, green pear halves, milk.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 3 — Breakfast: Cereal, toast and jelly, raisins, milk; Lunch: Beef and bean taco with lettuce and cheese, Spanish rice, mixed vegetables, slice of bread, apple wedges, milk.

THURSDAY, Feb. 4 — Breakfast: Cinnamon Tosties, apricots, milk; Lunch: Chicken pot pie, whole kernel corn, slice of bread, sliced peaches, peanut butter cookie, milk.

FRIDAY, Feb. 5 — Breakfast: Breakfast burrito, cherries, milk; Lunch: Fish on bun, macaroni and cheese, sliced carrots, mixed fruit, milk.

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Mitchell incorporation petition gets thrown out of court

Continued from Page 1A

teller," Mitchell resident Ron Trimmer said. "They can annex property after you file your petition, or even when you're circulating your petitions."

Granite City has annexed individual parcels of Mitchell property for years, prompting lawsuits by Mitchell leaders challenging the loss of fire district tax base and the

cutting off of one fire district parcel from another. Most of those suits have been dismissed.

Trimmer said neighboring communities "are trying any way they can to stop us from forming a community. I hope people (in Mitchell) don't give up."

Sinclair said he had not yet seen the order Thursday after noon and preferred not to comment on the decision.

"Once I review the order, I'll get with the people of

Mitchell and decide where to go from there," he said.

Mitchell supporters had until Feb. 11 to finalize a proposal that would have been taken to a vote April 13.

Mitchell has been fighting for years to get the right to vote on forming a community and has been stymied at several turns.

Previously, Bono and judges from the 5th District Appellate Court in Mt. Vernon had denied a proposal for a 22-mile map. That decision is on appeal to

the state Supreme Court, Trimmer said.

Mitchell supporters have maintained that they had more than 8,000 residents to form a village, but population would not have been a factor if the town could have gotten consent to incorporate from neighboring communities, Granite City's attorney Keith Jensen said.

A four-mile map floated as an alternative last year was favored by surrounding towns but not Mitchell, Jensen said.

Madison officials pushing for residential lead cleanups

Continued from Page 1A

Cleanup operations are expected to cease June 30. After that date, there will be

no opportunity for residents to request their yards be cleaned up or tested.

The biggest danger in residential areas is lead poisoning in small children

who may ingest contaminated soil.

If enough lead is in their bloodstream, it could lead to neurological damage and lower intelligence. A blood study done in 1991 showed that

within about one-quarter to one-half mile of the smelter site, 25 percent of the children were over the "level of concern."

New foundation opening shelter Valentine's Day

By Jason White
Staff writer

A new foundation for needy people and their four-legged friends will celebrate a grand opening on Valentine's Day.

The Maltie Thomas G. Qualls Foundation for People and Animals will be open from 2 to 5 p.m. Feb. 14 at 204 John St. in Collinsville.

Founder Thomas G. Qualls will donate \$100 for pet food to start the fund-raising campaign.

Qualls said the foundation will provide pet food for senior citizens and others on a fixed

income. He also wants to provide homes for stray animals.

"We want to get people to adopt a dog or cat on Valentine's Day," Qualls said. "I think we can show our kindness and love to the animals as well as our

The house in Collinsville will be used for food storage and office space.

The foundation is named for Qualls' father, the late Rev. Maltie T. Qualls.

"He was an animal lover, like myself," Qualls said.

"We want to get people to adopt a dog or cat on Valentine's Day. I think we can show our kindness and love to the animals."

Thomas G. Qualls
Foundation founder

The first fund-raiser will be an ad book. Ad prices are \$10, \$25, \$50 and \$75. The ad book will be 8 1/2 by 11 inches.

Qualls is president of the Washington Park Emergency Organization. The group aids needy residents and sponsors several children's programs

each year.

"We do everything but help animals," Qualls said.

For information, call 321-1958 or write Qualls Foundation, 204 John St., Collinsville, Ill., 62234.



Contributed photo

The spirit of service

Madison County Transit Chairman and Granite City Mayor Ron Selph, left, presents the Nelson Hagnauer Excellence in Service Award to MCT employee Connie Ballard during a raucous ceremony at Nelson Hagnauer Town Hall in Granite City. The award is given to employees who excel in customer service with MCT services.

BAC's Saturday Experience classes a great way to learn skills, enrich lives

Learn to take creative photographs, trace your family heritage or even take care of perennial plants in Belleville Area College's Saturday Experience workshop this spring.

BAC is offering a variety of non-credit Saturday Experience courses ranging from arts and crafts to outdoor adventures at the Belleville Campus, 2500 Carlyle Ave.

Each non-credit course will meet on a Saturday unless otherwise specified. Tuition and supply costs will vary depending on the class. Tuition must be paid before the first day of class; however, supply fees must be paid to the instructor on the first day of class.

Classes starting in February include:

* Weave a Heart-Shaped Basket — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 13, room to be announced. Weave a decorative accent for St. Valentine's Day. Fee: \$11. Supplies: \$15, cloths, hand towel, scissors, standard screwdriver, and a bucket or dishpan.

* Ukrainian Easter Egg — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 20, room to be announced. Learn the age-old craft of Ukrainian Pysanky. Fee: \$11. Supplies: \$10.

* Floral Oil Painting — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 20, room to be announced. Learn new wet-on-wet painting techniques from a certified Bob Ross instructor. Fee: \$21. Supplies: \$30.

* Creative Photo Album

Design — 10 a.m. to noon, Feb. 27, room to be announced. Learn photo preservation techniques, creative cropping, and theme decorating for creating photo albums. Fee: \$7. Supplies: \$10, bring scissors and 10-12 related photos.

* Spring Fun to Make and Take — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 20, room to be announced. Make five decorative brooches for spring occasions. Fee: \$11. Supplies: \$7, glue gun, scissors, needle, thread, and any old jewelry parts.

* Eucalyptus Swag — 10 a.m. to noon, Feb. 27, room 1100. Use eucalyptus, paper twist and dried flowers to create a swag. Fee: \$7. Supplies: \$14, glue gun, pen, pencil, ruler and scissors.

* Lady Liberty — 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Feb. 27, room 1100.

Use raffia, paper twist, styrofoam and assorted patriotic trims to create an angelic Statue of Liberty for display. Fee: \$9. Supplies: \$15, glue gun, pen and pencil, ruler and scissors.

* Personal and Professional

* Photography: Creative Aspects — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 13, 20, 27, and March 13, room to be announced. Learn the basics of photography, plus creative aspects. Fee: \$42. Supplies: camera.

* Math for Pre-Schoolers — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 13, room to be announced. Learn methods for teaching toddlers and preschoolers math. Fee: \$11. No supplies are needed.

* How to Manage Stress in

the Workplace — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 20, room to be announced. Learn to reduce conflict, assist in managing and lower stress levels in the workplace using role-playing techniques. Fee: \$11. No supplies are needed.

* How to Buy and Finance a House — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 20 and 27, room to be announced. Learn the steps of buying a house, including location, selection, inspection and negotiation. Fee: \$21. No supplies are needed.

* Astrology for Beginners — 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 20, 27, March 6 and 13, room to be announced. Learn the signs of the Zodiac and how to interpret them. Fee: \$28. No supplies are needed.

* ACT Prep Workshop — 9

a.m. to noon, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, and 27, room to be announced. Preparations for the ACT include verbal skills, reading comprehension, science and math. Social Security number is required to enroll. Fee: \$83. Supplies: Book approximately \$16.

* Genealogy — 9 to 11 a.m., Feb. 27, March 6 and 13, room to be announced. Learn to conduct research through family, church, civil and census records. Fee: \$21. No supplies are needed.

* Self-Improvement * Alternative Health Issues Session II — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 13, room to be announced. Topics for discussion include Fibromyalgia and Myofascial Pain Syndrome, plus Myofascial Trigger Point

Myotherapy. Fee: \$11. No supplies are needed.

* Alternative Health Issues Session III — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 20, room to be announced. Traditional Chinese medicine with a focus on childhood ailments such as earaches, asthma, headaches, joint pain

and allergies. Fee: \$11. No supplies are needed.

* Alternative Health Issues Session IV — 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 27, room to be announced. Discussion of diagnosis and treatment of soft tissue injuries. Fee: \$11. No supplies are needed.

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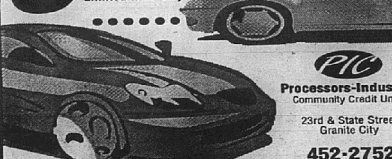
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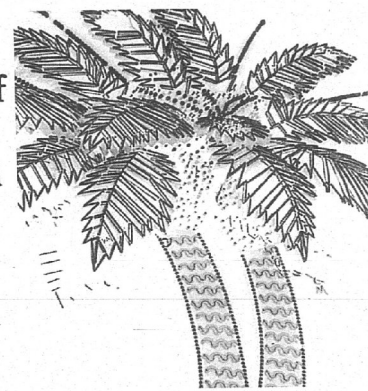


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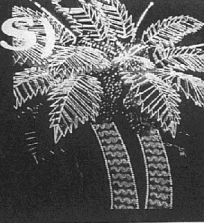


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'Still Crazy' schizophrenic look at aging rock 'n' rollers

On the surface, they're pretty distasteful—all of them. The boys from the glam-rock band "Strange Fruit" weren't all that easy on the eyes to begin with, and two post-breakup decades of aging and forlorn lives haven't made things any better.

REVIEW **T H U S T**
"Still Crazy," a film a studio publicist billed—completely on the mark—as "This Is Spinal Tap" meets "The Full Monty." Is it a comedy or a drama? No matter. Its schizophrenia serves it well, and it ends up a poignant treatise on aging and the dangers of instant gratification.

Tony (Stephen Rea), Strange Fruit's erstwhile keyboard player, is a man who, thought Jimi Hendrix's tooth on a chain around his neck. He finds himself broke 21 years after the band's denouement. "Wisbech," an open-air con-

cert that was the pinnacle of 1970s performance rock. So he devises a scheme to get the group back together. "You hated each other in the end," warns Karen, a groupie who essentially managed the band back in its glory days, and is now a mom pushing 40. But Tony goes off in search of his former chums, determined to orchestrate their resurrection.

There's Hughie (Billy Connolly), the roadie who misses the camaraderie. There's Les (Jimmy Nail), who has started his own roofing business but deeply misses the music. There's Sean (Timothy Spall), the overweight but of jokes who is running from financial problems.

And finally, there's Ray (Bill Nighy), the former lead singer and glam boy who attends AA meetings, is prone to be alternately bullied and coddled by his wife Astrid (Helena

Bergstrom). He's determined to show he's not too old to play the game. At first, they manage to book a few nostalgia gigs. Their premiere, aboard a boat in Holland, is disastrous. But as they play together, the music they loved resurfaces—as does the arguing that tore Strange Fruit asunder in the first place.

"Still Crazy" is essentially a buddy flick, full of sexual jokes and tour-bus flatulence and reminiscences of glory days. But something deeper is at play.

Much of what motivates the band is the premature deaths of their two mates, Keith and Brian. They idolize Brian (Bruce Robinson, who looks more like a glam-rock star than most real glam-rock stars), and their quest to understand what happened to him and preserve his memory acts as a metaphor for lost

It is a comedy or a drama? No matter. Its schizophrenia serves it well, and it ends up a poignant treatise on aging and the dangers of instant gratification.

youth. Rarely is the rock scene examined from the vantage point of aging performers, and attention to this keeps "Still Crazy" from stumbling into the mediocrity that its first 20 minutes foreshadowed. All the men, and Karen as well, are living lives they feel are far inferior to the days when thousands of screaming youths would cheer their music. But it's a young man's game.

This hits Ray hardest; as the reunion tour progresses, he applies more makeup (Ziggy Stardust meets Gene Simmons) and grows ever more cadaverous as he struggles to

recapture something he never quite defined in the first place. "The tragedy of people like me," he says, "is our lives peak too early."

The music of Strange Fruit, written for the film by Squeeze lyricist Chris Difford and musicians Mick Jones of Foreigner and Jeff Lynne of ELO, is surprisingly memorable and will probably make for a good-selling soundtrack.

Through an adept balance of absurdist humor (Ray attends an AA meeting in Dutch, which turns out to be Overeaters Anonymous) and melancholy for a youth forever lost, "Still Crazy" succeeds, in no

small part due to exceptional performances by Nail and Nighy.

This is the story of the Stones and Kinks and Kisses who weren't.

The raucous music may not be to everyone's taste, but when Karen says, "I wanna stand in the dark and see an audience feel the way I do," you'll know just what she means.

"Still Crazy" is directed by Brian Gibson from a script by Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais. The Columbia-TriStar release is rated R.

—Associated Press

Film 'At First Sight' based on real medical case

What happens to a person who gains sight after a lifetime of blindness?

REVIEW This is the most compelling element of "At First Sight," an earnest, thoughtful drama based on a real event. The best-selling author-physician Oliver Sacks provided the story in his book "An Anthropologist on Mars." Sacks has gained a reputation for uncovering unusual medical cases. One of them became the basis for the Robin Williams-Robert De Niro movie "Awakenings," which "At First Sight" resembles. Both illustrate the limits of medical miracles.

Virgil Adamson (Val Kilmer) works as a masseur at a high-priced mountain spa. He lives alone next door to his tutor Jennie (Kelly McGillis), his long-time guardian. At night he listens to broadcasts of the New York Rangers and skates alone on a pond hidden in the woods.

Amy Benic (Mira Sorvino), a burned-out New York architect, arrives at the spa for the regimen of rest and yogurt.

The characters and events of Steve Levitt's screenplay have an air of predictability, and Irwin Winkler's direction lacks excitement.

She becomes intrigued by the handsome young man who gives her a sensuous massage. Only afterward does she realize that he is blind (this is hard to believe).

A love affair ensues, and against Jennie's wishes, Virgil accompanies Amy to Manhattan. She helps him overcome his reluctance to consult with Dr. Charles Aaron (Bruce Davison), whose institute has developed new techniques for improving damaged sight.

Virgil fears the operation, and his sister opposes it. But Amy prevails. For the first time Virgil is able to see. In the beginning, the burst of light pains him. Soon he adjusts, but now he must grasp the elements of depth perception and other factors that children learn in their infancy. This is absorbing stuff.

Despite its good intentions,

the rest of "At First Sight" seems strangely unconvincing. The characters and events of Steve Levitt's screenplay have an air of predictability, and Irwin Winkler's direction lacks excitement. John Seale's cinematography contrasting the mountain greenery and the bold colors of Manhattan is a vital asset.

Val Kilmer, the most underrated of today's leading men, brings humanity and charm to the role of Virgil, and Mira Sorvino in her first big lead role shows she has what it takes.

Kelly McGillis and Bruce Davison are strong in support, but Nathan Lane is wasted in a brief appearance as a blind-

ness therapist.

The MGM release was produced by Winkler and Ron Cowan. Rated PG-13 because of adult material. Running time: 124 minutes.

—Associated Press



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Imagine their surprise when they see how you feel in a message printed inside one of our "candy hearts" that will be delivered to thousands in their area. Tell your spouse how much you love them, your teacher how special they are, your sibling they aren't that bad after all or a friend how much they mean to you.

Simply fill out the form below and mail along with payment to: Valentine Love Lines, Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, MO 63131.

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Lauryn Hill coming to Fox

1999 Grammy Award nominee Lauryn Hill will perform at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at St. Louis' Fox Theatre. The opening act, "Lauryn Hill: The Miseducation Tour" is the rap duo OutKast. Lauryn Hill, already a two-time Grammy Award winner as one-third of The Fugees rap group, earned an impressive 10 nominations for the 41st annual Grammy Awards, including Album of the Year, Best R and B Song and Best New Artist. This year's awards will be announced Feb. 24. "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill" is Hill's solo debut album.

Tickets for "Lauryn Hill: The Miseducation Tour" are \$34 and \$39. They are on sale now at the Fox Theatre box office and all MetroTix locations, including all area Famous-Barr stores; Streetside Records and select Schnucks Video Clubs. To charge by phone, call Metro Tix at (314) 534-1111. Visit the Fox Theatre web site at www.fabulousfox.com.

Symphony Chorus concert Monday

The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra's In Unison Chorus will perform at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Bothwell Chapel at McKendree College in Lebanon. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens and \$4 for students. McKendree College students are admitted free. Parking is free. For more information call 537-6962.

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By Dennis Gru Staff writer

For Blaine J. between probation sentence may be that was par Courthouse hall lawyer gave him Schanter, 30, of years' probatio of two men in 1997.

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By Paul Mackie Staff writer

Glen Carbon completion of a Meridian Hills

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Man escapes long sentence

Because victim survived shooting, probation given

By Dennis Grubaugh
Staff writer

For Blaine J. Schanter, the difference between probation and a long-term prison sentence may have been inches.

That was part of the stern Madison County Courthouse hallway lecture that Schanter's lawyer gave him after a judge sentenced Schanter, 30, of Fairview Heights to two years' probation Wednesday for the shooting of two men in an SUE apartment in June 1997.

One of the people Schanter shot was hit in the chest, just inches from his heart. The other suffered a superficial wound to the arm. Both recovered.

Schanter's lawyer, Carmen Durso of Belleville, said he believes his client has been "scared straight" by the incident, which was precipitated by a dispute between Schanter and another man over a woman who lived in the apartment, in the Cougar Lake complex.

Schanter told Circuit Judge Charles Roman Jr. that he is remorseful. "I'm sorry the incident ever happened," he said. "Never again will I allow myself to be put into this kind of situation."

Durso and authorities gave this account of what happened: Schanter and several other people were celebrating the woman's 24th birthday at Stagger Inn in Edwardsville late June 29 and early June 30, 1997. The woman invited everyone back to her apartment at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

As the celebration progressed, a quarrel started between Schanter and Joseph Tilden over remarks Tilden allegedly making to the woman. Most of the guests began leaving

when they sensed something was about to happen, Durso said.

At one point, Tilden wrestled the woman to the floor and Schanter maintains that he thought he might attempt to rape the woman. He pulled out a pistol that he had brought to the apartment and fired a warning shot. Tilden continued to taunt him, Durso said, and Schanter shot him in the upper chest. A second man, Leroy Moody, was shot in the arm when he stepped between the parties trying to break up the dispute.

Assistant State's Attorney Rich Rybak said that neither victim pushed prosecution of Schanter. Tilden is now believed to live in Ohio and could not be found when it came time to file the victim's report that was considered by the judge before sentencing. The other victim, Moody, suggested that Schanter and Tilden should be "placed in a stockade and let the public throw tomatoes at them," Durso said.

Durso said he seriously thinks Schanter could have been acquitted on a self-defense argument if the case had gone to trial. Schanter was originally charged with two counts of aggravated battery with a firearm and one count of aggravated discharge of a firearm. Schanter pleaded no contest in return for one of the counts being dismissed and a second being reduced.

Also under the agreement, Rybak remained silent at the sentencing hearing, so as not to influence the sentence handed down by Roman.

Schanter also agreed to pay \$1,564 in restitution — \$1,200 for Moody's medical bills, and the rest to SUE for police department blood tests and apartment repairs, Rybak said.



Jean Hileman cuts cake for those attending a party celebrating the 15th anniversary of the Friends of the Library.

'Friends' celebrate anniversary

The 15th anniversary of the Friends of the Library was recently celebrated at the Granite City Branch Library.

President Jean Hileman welcomed those attending. Charter members attending were Pauline Schank, and Carol and Bob Braundmeier.

The Friends of the Library is a group of individuals working to maintain an association of persons interested in books, library services and their community.

"We work to increase public awareness of all library services and facilities and assist in bringing to the local library funds for special needs beyond the command of the library budget," a spokesman said.

The Friends held a book sale its first year. This June 4 and 5 will mark the 15th annual sale. This will be held at the Granite City Ice Rink on Fehling road.

The Friends group uses a portion of its profit

yearly to sponsor summer activities for the Children's Department, decorate the libraries for Christmas and sponsor book signings.

On a regular basis, patients at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center receive reading material from the volunteers of the Friends group. Each Tuesday reading materials are distributed free of charge to various floors to make the patients stay a little more pleasant. A wide selection of paper back books and magazines are offered. These reading materials are donated by local residents.

A 15th anniversary cake and other refreshments were provided by Connie McGee and Pauline Schank and served to those in attendance.

Anyone interested in attending the next meeting is invited to attend the March 17 meeting at 7 p.m. at the Branch Library on Johnson Road.

Meridian Hills sewer job completed

By Paul Mackie
Staff writer

Glen Carbon officials have announced the completion of a yearlong sewer project in the Meridian Hills area.

D & K Backhoe of Collinsville began work on the \$727,000 project in February 1998. The new system has been in place for village residents since about October.

The 30,000-foot sanitary system, which features two major lift stations, runs west from homes on Racoon Drive in Meridian Hills subdivision to a sewer station at the bottom of the bluffs off of Old Chain of Rocks Road.

At Tuesday night's Sewer Committee meeting, village officials learned that the project exceeded the original cost estimate by 6.78 percent.

The village's public works director, Tom Sedlacek, said the project was \$6,000 more than initially expected. Sedlacek said there was an unforeseen cost with a "dewatering" system near Old Chain of Rocks Road.

The committee also reported that Jim Harmon Farms, just north of the Meridian Road-Interstate 270 overpass on Smola Lane, has requested reimbursement of nearly \$4,000 worth of crop damage because of the project.

In other news at the meeting: A recently backed-up sewer caused more than \$1,500 worth of damage to a home on the 100 block of South Main Street. The problem

Marriage licenses

The following marriage licenses recently were issued through the office of Madison County Clerk Mark Von Nick:

Ramey Baker of Collinsville and Rebecca Wycoff of Troy.
Gregory Becherer and Emily Pfeil, both of Troy.
Terry Becker of Edwardsville and Barbara Shelton of Maryville.

Martin Blaylock of St. Louis and Maria Holcomb of Godfrey.
Milton Burlison of Granite City and Barbara Tuggle of Hartford.

Dale Campbell Jr. and Phyllis Campbell, both of Granite City.
Keith England and Patricia Hamilton, both of Collinsville.
George Filer and Sheila Minion, both of Glen Carbon.

Robert George and Cindy Collins, both of Glen Carbon.
Donard Gusewille of Pocahontas and Darlene Metz of Dorsey.

Jerry Handshy of Edwardsville, and Roberta Trisole of East Alton.
James Lewis Sr. and Patricia Lewis, both of Granite City.
Marshall Patrick of Granite City of Lynn Messmer of St. Louis.

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Shriners spread message about dangers of fire

Burn Awareness Week set for Feb. 7-13

By Jason White
Staff writer

Burns are a preventable tragedy that can scar a child for life.

That's the message the Shriners want to send during Burn Awareness Week Feb. 7-13.

The Shriners operate 22 free hospitals for children from birth to age 18, including four burn hospitals. The Cincinnati burn hospital is closest to St. Louis.

Skip Anderson, public relations director at the Aina Temple in East St. Louis, said transportation is provided to the hospitals — sometimes in emergencies by plane.

The hospitals are funded by contributions. The Shriners also operate hospitals that treat orthopedic disorders.

"One thing that's important to most Shriners is to get the word out that we're here," Anderson said, adding that many people don't believe that the hospitals are free.

During Burn Awareness Week, the Shriners are asking parents to be aware of dangers posed by household appliances.

About 20,000 children under age 15 are burned each year by curling and clothing irons. Another 24,000 are burned by electric ranges, ovens, grills, heaters, cigarettes, lighters and electrical cords and outlets.

The Shriners recommend the following steps:

- Children can be burned instantly by a 167-degree curling iron.
- Keep curling irons in an unreachable location. Keep children away while using one. Use a safety holder. Don't allow children to play with curling irons.
- The same precautions apply to clothing irons. Cords should be kept out of reach at all times.
- Keep children away from electric ranges, ovens, grills and heaters. Keep children out of the kitchen and away from grills when cooking. Use protective shielding or screens when using space heaters or other home heating devices, and never leave children alone around heaters.
- Keep matches, lighters and cigarettes out of reach. Use only child-resistant lighters. Teach children the dangers of playing with fire.
- Throw away frayed or damaged electrical cords. Don't allow cords to dangle from countertops. Use safety devices on electrical outlets.

For a booklet on burn prevention tips, write to the Public Relations Department, International Shrine Headquarters, P.O. Box 31356, Tampa, Fla., 33631-3556, or visit the Shrine's Web site at www.shrinershq.org.

The Shriners is an international fraternal organization with 500,000 members, including 6,300 in the southern half of Illinois.

NBA star's brother sentenced

By Dennis Grubaugh/Staff writer

Leroy Davis created a stir in the Madison County Courthouse last October when his famous brother came to his aid in a local drug case.

But Davis, 23, raised hardly an eyebrow this month when his case was disposed of and he was placed on two years' probation.

Davis is the brother of LaPhonso Ellis, a free agent National Basketball Association player and most recently a star forward with the Denver Nuggets. Back in October, Ellis signed autographs at the Sheriff's Department and at the courthouse when he picked up his brother after he was arrested on a felony drug charge out of Glen Carbon.

Davis, of the 1300 block of Chancellor Drive in Edwardsville, was charged with unlawful possession of cannabis with intent to deliver after he allegedly handed over nearly a pound of marijuana to police.

Authorities said Davis was arrested after a domestic disturbance call at his former apartment in the Cottonwood subdivision of Glen Carbon.

Davis was given the two-year probation by Circuit Judge Edward Ferguson.

Ellis attended East St. Louis Lincoln High School and the University of Notre Dame before entering the NBA.

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT GRANITE CITY POLICE OFFICER

- The Qualification listed below are not complete. For a complete listing of qualifications, please refer to the Rules & Regulations enclosed in each application packet.
- APPLICANT MUST:**
1. Be at least 20 years of age with a two-year Law Enforcement Degree or
 2. Be at least 21 years of age and under 35 years of age at the time of application deadline.
 3. Possess or be able to obtain a valid Illinois Driver's License.
 4. Pass a written examination, oral interview, background investigation, polygraph test, psychological exam, physical agility test, and a thorough medical examination.
 5. According to City Ordinance #8411, shall become actual residents (domiciled) in the City of Granite City within 90 days from the first date of their gainful employment with the City of Granite City. The establishment and maintenance of primary residence within the City of Granite City shall be a condition of continued employment for said employee.
 6. Have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
 7. Have 20/20 vision or at least 20/50 binocular vision without glasses, correctable to 20/20 with glasses and shall not be color blind.
 8. Be able to obtain five letters of reference.
 9. Pick up application from Judy Curry at the Granite City Police Department, 2330 Madison Avenue, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Applications, or their representative, will be asked to sign when picking up their application. APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 2, 1999.
 10. Complete and return the application by February 19, 1999 to the same location. NO APPLICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 3:30 P.M., ON THAT DATE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED IN THE APPLICANTS OWN HANDWRITING.
 11. Granite City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
- BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS**
Granite City, IL

Police seeking two suspects

By Paul Mackie
Staff writer

Glen Carbon police are searching for two suspects in unrelated village felonies.

A 33-year-old Venice man, of the 1300 block of Klein Street, is charged in connection with a residential burglary in the Cottonwood area.

Police withheld the name of the man

because they said he is a flight risk. He is suspected of taking nearly \$5,300 in jewelry, clothing and other items in the residential burglary, which was reported to police on Oct. 20.

"We got fingerprints off a broken basement window," said Glen Carbon police Sgt. Mark Foley.

"The burglary was believed to be committed by an acquaintance of the family."

Police reported that a resident of the

house, located on the first block of Cottonwood Trace, had noticed over several months that items were missing from the house.

In the other case, Ryan E. Prince, of the first block of Bittersweet Drive, Glen Carbon, is charged with unlawful possession of a registration sticker.

Prince, 22, allegedly stole the license-plate sticker of a neighbor.

3 local men charged in series of burglaries

By Frank Gluck
Staff writer

Three Granite City men who authorities say are linked to 14 burglaries in eight counties have been charged in St. Charles County with property damage and stealing.

Bernard Barth, 25, Michael Consiglio, 30, and Cameron Crockarell, 30, were each charged in St. Charles County on Thursday with two counts of second-degree burglary, one count of first-degree property damage and one count of second-degree stealing.

Bond for each was set at \$5,000, no 10

percent allowed.

The St. Charles County charges stem from Sept. 10, 1998, and Oct. 12, 1998, incidents at a Citgo store at 4425 Highway 79 in St. Charles County.

Prosecutors say the men pried an ATM machine from its base during the Sept. 10 incident, causing about \$750 in damage.

During the Oct. 12 incident, they allegedly stole a safe containing cash, checks and lottery tickets valued at at least \$150.

A video camera recorded both incidents, according to court documents.

The three men were arrested Jan. 19 following a burglary in Crawford County, Ill., police said.

Police captured the men in a Franklin County camping area after the burglary of a convenience store in Crawford County, police said.

A search of Crockarell's home netted the checks from the St. Charles County burglary, police said.

Police also found two safes from Jefferson County and one each from St. Genevieve County, Perry County, Montgomery County and Callaway County, and checks stolen from St. Clair County, police said.

As of Thursday, the three were in custody in the Crawford County jail in lieu of \$100,000 cash-only bonds.

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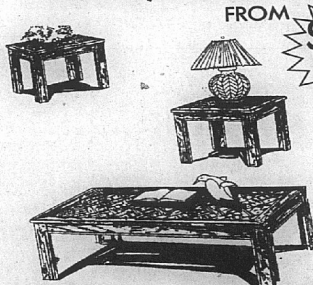
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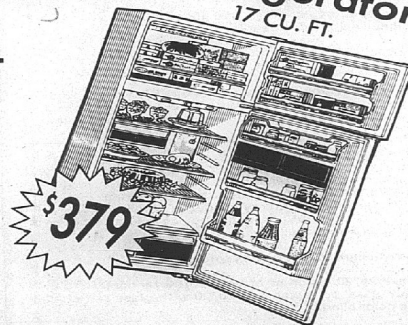
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Sofa & Loveseat (300).....	\$599 ⁰⁰ ea.	Reg. \$949
Roller Din. (595).....	\$399 ⁰⁰ ea.	Reg. \$699
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Be content with what you have in life

As a child is happy with a simple cardboard box for a creative, imaginary toy, be content with whatever you have, for He said, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

A person's life consists of much more than the abundance of things he or she possesses. The good in human life is shown in quiet appreciation of the things money cannot buy.

"The true perfection of man lies not in what man has, but in what man is," wrote 19th century Irish playwright Oscar Wilde. You can have a wonderful life measured by the joy you give others.

Real contentment comes from the heart. The sweetness of love, the awareness of a heavenly Father and peace of mind are makers of happiness that no condition, amount of land or coin can depress.

Money and property will not fill your life with joy. A wise person knows that what's really important in life is giving and receiving love. Difficult times have helped me to understand how infinitely rich and beautiful life is, and that worldly goods and the status symbols we are bombarded with are of little importance.

A New You



Catherine Galasso

Material items can be enjoyed; admit them in your life, but never base your happiness on them.

The price one pays for things is sometimes so high that in the end these items can become a great loss to you. Honor, integrity, a clear conscience, spending time with a loving family and good health are just a few treasures beyond any material gain.

So the next time you are conscious of a co-worker's promotion, a neighbor's new boat or fancy car, do not be. To be dissatisfied about what you have is to waste the joy in what you do have. Earthly things never satisfy.

"For what shall I profit a man if he gain the whole world

and suffer the loss of his soul," Mark 8:36. "My true wealth is knowing I am one of God's children," writes reader Peter Danielczuk.

Simplify your life, lighten your burdens. Take pleasure in the little joys: a quiet walk after the fresh fallen snow, the sound of beautiful music, or a warm cup of tea and a good book. These are graces free to all. In the most humble places you will find these jewels.

The person who is richest is the one who is happy with the least and shares the most. Stop for a moment and take a look at true wealth such as genuine character, trusted friendships and self-respect. These are priceless attributes.

Concentrate on all the wonderful qualities you possess. You have so much. What really matters is the love that is eternal.

Share your love and your blessings with others. Offer to babysit for a busy mom, help a neighbor shovel his walkway or bake cookies for a shut-in. You will find that you are rich indeed.

"I am happiest when I am giving back to the community," writes reader Tony Persia. "I sing at multiple care centers and for civic organizations. It feels good

giving to others."

It is a paradox that true wealth is found not in how much you have but in how much you can give away. You have a wealth of very useful gifts within you — a smile, a pat on the back, a hug, a compliment, an encouragement, or a few moments to listen with a caring heart.

I have a friend who said when money was scarce, for special occasions, her family gave each other tickets that they created themselves: coupons to wash the dishes, cook dinner, fold the laundry or wash the car for free. These tickets made heartwarming gifts.

The greatest treasure is already yours, life itself and the freedom to choose to walk and talk with God and to know the depths and height of His love.

Catherine Galasso is a freelance columnist for the Suburban Journals. You may write to her at Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, 63131, or by e-mail at westnews@primary.net.



Lake School honorees

Contributed photo
Lake Elementary School in Granite City has recognized their Students of the Week for the week of Jan. 25-29, 1999. Selections are based on classroom performance, cooperation and in-school behavior. Students named are given a badge, a pencil and certificate of their achievement. This week's students came from the fifth-grade classes. From left, they are Kim Smith, April Fortmann, Crystal Bell and Nicholas Whitehorn.

Milestones

Christina Wolfe celebrates a birthday today, Jan. 31.
Michelle Broadhurst celebrates a birthday today, Jan. 31.

Calib Michael Thomas Staggs celebrates a birthday today, Jan. 31.
Rick Skipper celebrates a birthday today, Jan. 31.

Rhonda Cripps celebrates a birthday today, Jan. 31.
Norman L. Padgett celebrates a birthday today, Jan. 31.

Ollie and Frances White celebrate their wedding anniversary today, Jan. 31.
George E. Barrow Sr. celebrates a birthday Feb. 1.

Doug Redding celebrates a birthday Feb. 1.
Rev. Richard and Mildred Green celebrate their wedding anniversary Feb. 1.

Mark Arnold celebrates a birthday Feb. 2.
Brittany Kuit celebrates a birthday Feb. 2.

James Newsome Sr. celebrates a birthday Feb. 2.
Paul and Jenny McEntyre celebrate their wedding anniversary Feb. 2.

"Little" Phil Clutts celebrates a birthday Feb. 3.
Tiffany Barunica celebrates a birthday Feb. 3.

Todd Michael Dames celebrates a birthday Feb. 4.
Howard Dutko celebrates a birthday Feb. 4.

Rebecca Kostecki celebrates a birthday Feb. 4.
Helen McGarahan celebrates a birthday Feb. 4.

brates a birthday Feb. 4.
Bill and Julie French celebrate their wedding anniversary Feb. 4.

Steve and Judy French celebrate their wedding anniversary Feb. 4.
Stephanie Kalika celebrates their wedding anniversary Feb. 4.

Bert Armour celebrates a birthday Feb. 5.
Reginald Clark Jr. celebrates a birthday Feb. 5.

Samantha Anne Vandaveer celebrates a birthday Feb. 5.
Pauline Burns celebrates a birthday Feb. 5.

Melissa Smith celebrates a birthday Feb. 5.
Jim and Lisa Green celebrate their wedding anniversary Feb. 5.

Kathi Arnold celebrates a birthday Feb. 6.
Ellen Kay Christopher celebrates a birthday Feb. 6.

James Leroy Turner celebrates a birthday Feb. 6.
Megan Barnfield celebrates a birthday Feb. 6.

Edward McGovern celebrates a birthday Feb. 6.
Jamie Nelson celebrates a birthday Feb. 6.

Marshall McElroy celebrates a birthday Feb. 6.
James Turner celebrates a birthday Feb. 6.

Chris and Nikki Nash celebrate their wedding anniversary Feb. 6.

PUBLIC DISPOSAL SUNDAY FINAL PHASE

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THIS IS IT!
If you have been waiting for further reductions, the time is NOW! For 4 HOURS TODAY additional discounts on all remaining inventory has been ordered for the Final Phase of this Public Disposal. DO NOT WAIT! Be at the doors early when they open Sunday at 1pm.

ALL MUST GO!

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This is your once in a lifetime chance to purchase furniture at sacrificed prices! Please be patient, the crowds will be large. Thank you for 50 great years. Be early! Don't miss your chance. Save on famous name brands you know & trust.

BE EARLY	GREAT BUY	GREAT SELECTION	ORDERED SOLD SUNDAY	SAVE	GREAT VALUE	BE EARLY
\$349.95 OAK VANITY W/STOOL \$88	\$189.95 OAK CHEVAL MIRROR \$66	SELECT LAMPS \$12	1 to 5 pm	2 DRAWER CHEST \$44	LOVESEAT \$97	4 DRAWER CHEST \$33
WHILE THEY LAST	1 ONLY	GOOD SELECTION	1 to 5 pm	TWO ONLY	ONE ONLY	A FEW LEFT

NAME BRANDS AT SALVAGE PRICES
Prices have been slashed! Everything is priced to sell on sight. Cost has been completely forgotten. You'll want to be early and want to bring the crowds Sunday in order to get your share while selection is at its best. Be near the doors when they open Sunday morning. Convenient terms available with little or no money down or use your VISA, MasterCard or Discover.

4 HOURS ONLY! SUNDAY 1 PM - 5 PM FINAL PHASE SAVE UP TO 82%

FREE GED CLASSES

DAYTIME CLASSES

Cahokia Public Library, 140 Cahokia Park Drive.
Register: 1:15 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 9, library.
Class meets from 1:15-3:45 p.m., Tuesdays & Thursdays, until April 8.

Granite City Head Start, 2100 Edison Ave.
Register: 1 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 9, Parent Meeting Room.
Class meets from 1:30-3:50 p.m., Tuesdays & Wednesdays, until April 6.

Harris School, 1634 Seventh St. in Madison.
Register: noon, Thursday, Feb. 11, library.
Class meets from 12-3 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, until April 6.

DAYTIME CLASSES

Kreitner Grade School, 900 College Ave., in Collinsville.
Register: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 4, in Room 101.
Class meets from 6:30-9:20 p.m., Tuesdays & Thursdays, until April 1.

Lebanon High School, 201 W. Schultz St.
Register: 6:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 8.
Class meets from 6:30-9:20 p.m., Mondays & Wednesdays, until April 5.

New Athens High School, 501 Hanft.
Register: 6:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 8.
Class meets from 6:30-9:20 p.m., Mondays & Wednesdays, until April 5.

Granite City Campus, 4950 Maryville Road.
Register: 6:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 8, cafeteria.
Class meets from 6:30-9:20 p.m., Mondays & Wednesdays, until April 5.

Dupo High School, 600 Louisa Drive.
Register: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 11, Room 101.
Class meets from 6:30-9:20 p.m., Tuesdays & Thursdays, until April 8.

Highland High School, 12760 Troxler Lane.
Register: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 11, Room 201.
Class meets from 6:30-9:20 p.m., Tuesdays & Thursdays, until April 8.

O'Fallon High School, 600 S. Smiley Road.
Register: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 11, Room 101.
Class meets from 6:30-9:20 p.m., Tuesdays & Thursdays, until April 8.

For information, call (618) 235-2700, ext. 5525, or toll-free at 1-800-BAC-5131, ext. 5525.

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WHILE THEY LAST	1 ONLY	GOOD SELECTION	1 to 5 pm	TWO ONLY	A FEW LEFT

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All-Journal
Columbia's Batson headlines
Class A football team
Page 2B

Sports

sports on-line, www.yourjournal.com

Hockey update
Results for clubs in
Mississippi Valley league
Page 2B

Class act

Barrett successfully throws weight around for Illinois State

During my 29 years as a high school teacher, I've been fortunate to encounter some outstanding individuals.

On occasion, I've even been fortunate enough to have a student-athlete in an English class, but few of these ever had the class of Tom Barrett.

A most humble football and track athlete in high school, Barrett now enters his junior year at Illinois State University as that school's 25th track All-American.

An Illinois Class A state discus champion and prep

All-American during his days at O'Fallon, Barrett set the Missouri Valley Conference hammer throw record last spring with a heave of 208 feet 9 inches. He also won the conference indoor title in the shot put at 57-39.

Also third in the outdoor shot at 55-0, Barrett had an outdoor discus throw of 169-7 for a league-best during the season and placed third in the indoor 35-pound weight throw at 64-0.

Named the MVC field athlete of the week last April 13, Barrett placed first or second in six of the nine outdoor meets in the hammer throw, including titles at the Georgia Tech/Reebok Invite, the Missouri Invitational and the Sea-Ray Relays.

An applied computer science major, the 6-foot-2, 230-pound Barrett has dominated indoor action this winter. His impressive performances have attracted tutoring from a coach with Olympic connections.

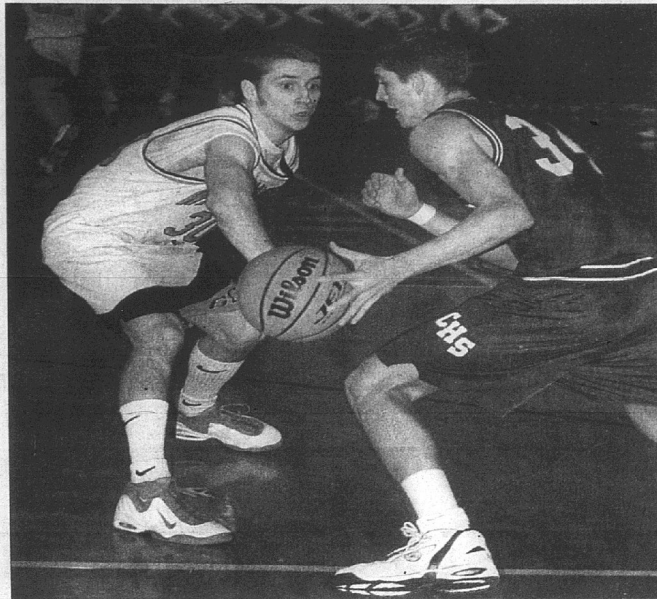
When the trials for the 2000 Games take place, my bet is Barrett, whose technique continues to improve, will be a highly regarded contestant. None, though, will have more character and class.

Overtime

In ISU women's track, O'Fallon also is represented by freshman Jamie Tyler, the 1998 Illinois state Class AA high jump champion, who has cleared 5-8.

Kelly Miller, a junior from Belleville West, finished second in the triple jump at the MVC Outdoor Championships last spring at 38-0 and returns as an all-conference performer.

In addition to the triple jump, she has competed in the 55 meters (7.58 seconds) and long jump (35-44) indoors and 200 meters (26.24) outdoors.



Granite City's Kevin Elliott (left) defends against Collinsville's Chris Shaffer in a recent Southwestern Conference game.

Evans lifts Edwardsville

Granite City slows Lytle but can't tame Tigers

By Greg Shashack
Staff writer

Granite City coach John VanBuskirk realized the risk, but was convinced his Warriors had few other options Friday night.

So when the Warriors zone sagged back and surrounded Edwardsville's 6-foot-10 Dan Lytle, scoring opportunities from the perimeter were plentiful for the Tigers. And it was Travis Evans who sparked the fire that would engulf the Warriors in Edwardsville's 58-35 Southwestern Conference victory at Gym A.

"Dan's a good player and you've got to double a player like that," said Evans, who drained three first-quarter 3-pointers on his way to a career-high 13-point outing.

"Everybody looks to do that and that leaves a couple of us wide open. Tonight, it was me and I wanted to step and make

the big shot. And I did at the right time." Edwardsville improved to 12-4 and 5-2 in the SWC, good for second place all alone behind Belleville East.

Granite City fell to 12-8 and 2-3 in the league. Lytle hit a pair of free throws in the opening seconds of the game, but didn't get off a single field-goal attempt in the first half against the Warriors zone. But Evans, who had made just 2 of 7 3-pointers and scored just 21 points total in the Tigers' first 15 games, drilled three treys to keep Edwardsville within 12-11 after one quarter.

The Tigers then proceeded to bury Granite City. Five consecutive points from Matt Flach and successive 3-pointers by Matt Turner and Matt Allaria sparked a 22-2 Edwardsville run over the next 12 minutes 22 seconds to put the Tigers up 33-14 halfway through the third quarter.

Edwardsville turns back Warriors once again

Granite City closes gap on the Tigers but still unable to stop EHS' weapons

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Edwardsville used 19 points by Lindsay Anderson and 16 by Carla Carroll to beat Granite City 58-40 on Friday night.

The Tigers beat Granite City for the second time this season in Southwestern Conference play. "We shot well tonight," Edwardsville coach Bud Vallino said. "We have been up and down all year with our shooting. Usually we feel that if you give us a 3, we are not afraid to shoot it. They spread us out a bit and we started to get in a little bit of foul trouble and we got into our 2-3 matchup zone and that shut them down quite a bit. From that point on, we felt like we controlled the game pretty well and we were controlling the boards. We got some good play out of Anderson. Carla Carroll woke up for us in the second half."

Granite City coach John Moad was not so happy about the outcome although he liked his team's effort.

"We came out and we played very poorly for four minutes," Moad said. "After that I thought we played well, extremely hard tonight. The effort was definitely there. They hit four 3-pointers in the first quarter, but we battled back. We really fought back in the second half. We played extremely hard."

"They are a good team, they are one of the best teams in the area. They are very athletic and they can all shoot. You can take your pick

of who you want to stop and they will just go to the next person."

Debra Aaron led the Warriors with 12 points. Jess Wallace and Jan Shanafelt each had 8 points and sophomore Christina Withers had her best varsity showing of the season, scoring 7 points.

Friday's game was much different than the first affair, won by the Tigers 83-35.

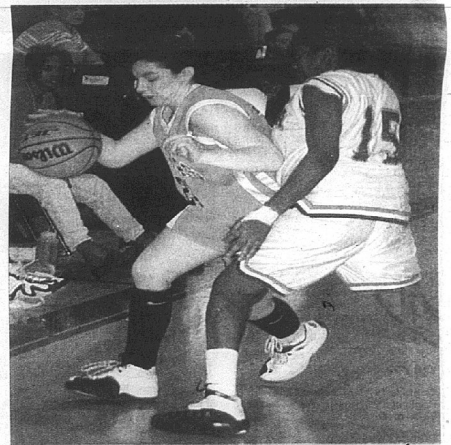
"They have improved," Vallino said. "Coach Moad has done a good job with them. The first game against them, we pressed them hard and they didn't handle the ball well, but I think they have come a long way."

With the game out of reach, Moad put in promising freshman Erin Tyler, who scored her first career varsity bucket.

"I was extremely nervous," Tyler said. "I always got nervous, even before a junior varsity game. It was intimidating, because it is a much faster game and I had people right up on me when I had the ball. It was more physical, too."

"She gives us a lift," Moad said. "She is a great defensive player. Her speed and her athleticism, you can't have enough of that on the court. That's why we need her help. She is very athletic and she is going to play a role for us, definitely."

The Warriors host Belleville West on Thursday and play at Belleville East on Friday. The regular season concludes with senior night on Feb. 8 at home against Alton.



Tim Stephenson photo

Granite City's Della Moore dribbles past a Belleville West player in a recent Southwestern Conference game. The Warriors fell to Edwardsville on Friday night.

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Columbia's Batson emerges in senior season

Running back exceeds 1,200 yards, scores 17 TDs against the Eagles' challenging slate of opponents

By Garen Vartanian
Staff writer

Columbia High football coach Joe Iorio needed just one game to see Andy Batson's tremendous upside as a running back.

Late in the 1997 season against Dupu, Iorio inserted Batson — then a junior — into the backfield.

Batson responded by rushing for 144 yards and one touchdown while tossing a halfback option scoring pass in the Eagles' 44-14 victory.

"I think last year at the Dupu game, he showed a glimmer of the potential he could've had this year," said Iorio. "From there on, I thought it was something he could do if he just put his mind to it."

Batson proved Iorio prophetic. Batson's senior season was so impressive he was chosen the Journal Newspapers of Southern Illinois' Offensive Player of

the Year for the Class A All-Journal team.

As a senior this fall, Batson (6-foot, 175 pounds) was one of the Metro East's most dynamic runners, rushing for over 1,200 yards and 17 touchdowns. He was a first-team all-Cahokia Conference pick.

Perhaps most impressive is the competition against which Batson posted those accomplishments. Columbia played five IHSAA playoff-bound squads this season.

"Offensively, I think his numbers more or less speak for themselves," said Iorio, whose team finished 4-5 overall and 3-2 in league play. "I just think he had a good year. He's a great kid. I think he's a team player. He's always a great kid in practice as far as listening and trying to do what you need. I think he represented the kids, the coaches, the players on what we would like to see all of our kids represent Columbia football."

Batson, who spent his freshman and sophomore

campaigns as Columbia's back-up quarterback, simply was thrilled at the chance to play running back.

"Our offense features the running back and I got the opportunity," said Batson, also a standout for the Eagles' baseball team. "I stayed healthy all season. I'm not the quickest guy in the world or the fastest. But I probably consider myself a smart runner — reading my blocks, running where the defense isn't."

Batson's unofficial coming out party in 1998 was a 206-yard, three touchdown explosion in Columbia's 24-22 upset victory against Chester on Sept. 4.

"After the Chester game, I was real excited," said Batson. "Going into the game, we figured that they were a better team than us, but that was probably the most fun game I've ever played."

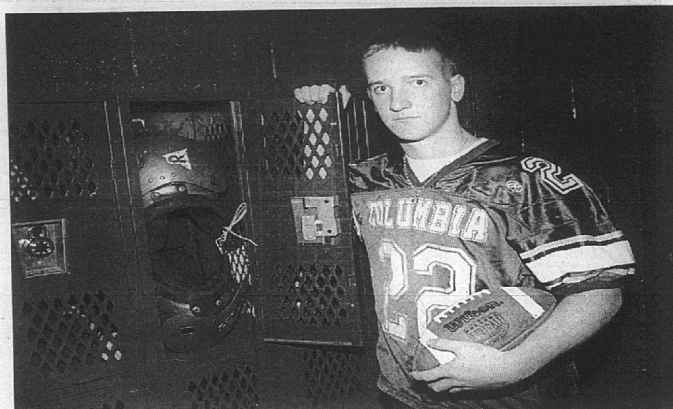
Batson, who shared backfield duties with fellow senior David Barks, also reached the 200-yard plateau against Carlyle.

Another Batson highlight was a four-touchdown performance in the Eagles' 43-21 victory against Dupu on Oct. 9.

"I think he sees the big picture," Iorio said, speaking of Batson's strengths. "I think he understands what he's supposed to do on certain plays. He's a smart kid in and out of the classroom. And when you put him in the backfield, he can see the whole thing of what's developed. Plus, I think he's got an attitude, a lot like me: he hates to lose."

Batson also became a more vocal leader this season.

"I think he's always been kind of a quiet kid that assumed his role, went out and did it without having to get real vocal," Iorio said. "And



Paul Baillargeon photo

Columbia senior Andy Batson showed an indication of what he would do this season with a big performance against Dupu last year.

then this year — it's one of those things that you hope kids grow into. I think it started with camp this summer. He was one of the seniors that made the commitment to go. And at camp, you rally the younger kids around the older

ones and you try to form that nucleus. He gave leadership. Batson's offseason dedication was paramount to his success in 1998.

For starters, Batson performed very well at the University of Missouri summer

football camp that several Columbia players attended. The full-contact camp included 18 high schools and several college coaches.

"He's one of those kids that worked out hard," Iorio said.

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Kicker: Greg Niedzinski, Columbia.

Defense

Linebackers: Tim Heinen, Columbia; Corey Alberson, Red Bud; Joe Fox, Freeburg; Maro

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Offense

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Receiver: Dustin Ziebold, Red Bud.

Defense

Linebackers: Ryan Converse, Freeburg; Ryan Stiles, Columbia.
Kicker: Rob DuBois, Freeburg.

Defense

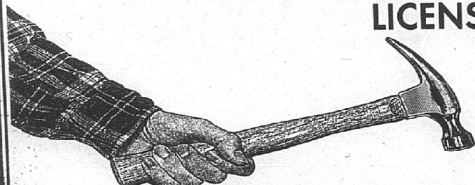
Linebackers: Steve Peterson, Metro East; Lutherac Mark Mueller, Freeburg.
Linebackers: T.J. Cobb, Columbia; Scott Koenig, Metro East; Lutherac Mark Mueller, Freeburg.
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Sports

O'Fallon will join Southwestern Conference

By Scott Marion
Staff writer

Months of speculation became reality last week, as O'Fallon High School became the newest member of the Southwestern Conference.

O'Fallon's application for admittance into the conference was unanimously approved Tuesday by SWC athletic directors and principals during a meeting at Porter's Steakhouse in Collinsville.

Under conference bylaws, O'Fallon will go through a mandatory two-year probationary period starting this year. O'Fallon will remain a member of the South Seven Conference through the 1999-2000 school year and will join the SWC for the 2000-2001 school year.

That coincides with a major expansion of the high school, which is expected to be completed in the fall of 2000.

"It's a logical move for us to make at this point in the growth of O'Fallon High School," said athletic director Steve Oliver. "It's a necessary step for us to compete against those schools and make us better overall."

Oliver and O'Fallon principal Dennis Grimmer said the school's rising enrollment is the primary factor

moving to the SWC. Currently, OTHS has 442 more students than Mount Vernon, which is the second-biggest school in the South Seven with an enrollment of 1,460. All seven SWC schools have an enrollment of at least 2,000 except Collinsville (1,871).

"Our official enrollment in the fall was 1,902," Oliver said. "It has been on the rise for the past 10 years and it's projected to continue to increase."

"One thing we seriously considered in making the transition to the SWC is that it's a good fit enrollment-wise. Facing those schools has been very beneficial to our ability to compete. We look forward to create more rivalries with the SWC schools and our coaching staff looks forward to those challenges."

"With the increased enrollment, one thing we considered was splitting the school into two campuses. With that scenario, two campuses of about 1,000 students apiece would have allowed us to stay in the South Seven. However, the state funding we received last fall stipulated that all new construction has to be on existing structures. In order to expand like we need to, everything has to be connected, and that blew

the two-school idea out of the water."

O'Fallon has plans for construction of a new gymnasium and new classrooms that will expand the high school's capacity to 2,500 students, which is the estimated enrollment in 10 years.

The new gym will extend toward Route 50 and take up our south parking lot," Oliver said. "It will have 3,500 seats and will be somewhat similar to Edwardsville's new facility."

"Thirty classrooms will be added at the north end of the building. If the money is there, we're contemplating building a multi-purpose facility at the east end. It would have a tile floor and would be used for intramurals and cheerleading and pom pom practices. It would free up more gym space for our other athletic programs."

O'Fallon has been in the South Seven — a six-school league which also includes Cahokia, Mount Vernon, Centralia, Carbondale and Marion — since 1993.

The school won 41 conference championships in various sports in that time.

OTHS was a member of the

Mississippi Valley Conference from 1972 to 1993 and was in the Cahokia Conference from 1926 to 1971.

"The South Seven has been very cooperative and very good to work with across the board," said Oliver, who added that the conference is seeking a school to replace O'Fallon.

"Our relationship with the South Seven has benefited us competitively. The significance those schools place on athletics has carried over to our athletic programs. (The South Seven) is also a springboard to carry us over to the SWC."

With the addition of O'Fallon, the SWC will have eight teams, including Belleville West, Belleville East, Collinsville, Edwardsville, East St. Louis, Granite City and Alton. The last time the SWC had eight teams was the 1996-97 school year, when East St. Louis was a member.

Lincoln, which merged with East St. Louis Senior last summer, was not in the conference during the 1997-98 school year.

"If we have any openings on the schedule for next year, we'll try to work in SWC opponents," Grimmer said. "In the fall of 2000, we'll come in with a full-schedule format. It will

be quite a chore for Steve and (assistant athletic director) Todd Moeller to get squared away, but once it's in place, an eight-team conference will be a lot easier."

"As part of our presentation, we dealt specifically with athletics and put together what our current schedule is," Oliver said. "My point was that on both the varsity and underclass levels, we already compete with a lot of (SWC) schools. It was big jump for us to go from the MVC to the South Seven because we didn't play many of those schools, but this will make the transition easier."

Another benefit in switching conferences is travel time for O'Fallon's teams and fans. After Cahokia, O'Fallon's closest South Seven rival is Centralia — 56 miles one-way. Carbondale is a 91-mile trip and Marion is 101 miles. O'Fallon's longest SWC trip will be to Alton (35 miles).

"Everybody talks about the travel factor, but it's really a question of what you become accustomed to," Grimmer said. "Carbondale and Marion are our two longest trips, but they have beautiful facilities. Our concern is more about losing time rather than the amount of time spent on the bus. Our coaches and kids have gotten used to long rides."

Jones sparks Eagles with scoring spree in Sparta

Sophomore averages 24.6 points for five games in Sparta Mid-Winter Classic

By Garen Vartanian
Staff writer

Reid Jones simply terrorized the competition at the 35th annual Sparta Mid-Winter Classic from Jan. 19-23.

Jones, a 6-foot-0 sophomore guard on the Columbia High basketball team, averaged 24.6 points per game for the five-game tournament.

In four of those contests,

Jones, posted the game-high for points scored in four of the five games. The efforts helped Columbia (11-11) complete the tournament at 2-3. And Jones was chosen for the all-tournament team.

"Reid is just doing a good job, making good decisions," Columbia coach Dave Touchette said. "And he's a good all-around ballplayer. He's up in the team lead in

steals. He's getting rebounds. He's not one of those kids that plays one end of the floor. He understands the whole game and he knows he's got to work."

Jones began tournament play with a 22-point performance in Columbia's 65-48 overtime loss to Waterloo.

Following a 14-point showing in the Eagles' setback to Venice, Jones registered 27 points in Columbia's 73-67 triumph against Triad. Jones also made three free throws in the final 30 seconds to clinch Columbia's verdict.

Jones then hit Lebanon with a 32-point salvo in a 93-88 loss. He concluded the tournament

by scoring 27 points and helping Columbia to a 74-62 verdict over Sparta.

Jones, also the starting quarterback for Columbia's football team, was 4 of 4 from the line in the final 1:04, securing the Eagles' decision

For the season, Jones, who added a 31-point performance in the Eagles' 65-48 victory against Marissa on Monday, is averaging 22.3 points per game, placing him fourth among area leaders.

Along with his pure talent, Jones also possesses a tireless work ethic, both on the basketball court and in the weight room.

"I drive down the highway and I don't even have to look," Touchette said, adding, "I know that spotlight's (from the Jones' house) going to be on, shining towards the highway. He's just one of those workaholic kids. The kid just really loves to have a basketball in his hands. He's out there all the time."

That type of dedication has rubbed off on other Columbia players as well.

"We had a couple of kids in the gym more than I think they would have in the past two years," Touchette said. "With Reid being a freshman last year, I think some of the older kids saw a little bit. Hey, we need to get in the gym. And that's what you need. You need that somebody to set the tone with that."

"It's sure nice to have him have the success with the hard work to tie the two things together for him, and everybody else."

Jones also is solid defensively. Perhaps his best attribute, however, is his no-quit attitude.


No matter the score or the situation, Jones will give 100 percent.

"He never quits," Touchette said. "Every team gets disappointed a little bit once in a while but as far as effort, I've never seen him quit. I think that's the thing with him. He hates to lose. He's one of those kids that just absolutely hates to lose."

As a freshman last year, Jones was a key contributor for Columbia.

Jones, who has 725 career points, averaged about 10 points per game for the 16-13 Eagles.

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"We knew he was going to surprise some people last year," said Touchette, who complimented Columbia Junior High basketball coach Jon Wehrenberg for his role in Jones' development. "Now a lot of the defense concentrate on him. He's really developed into a nice ballplayer."

Touchette expects Jones to only get better.

"He's got a love for the game," Touchette said. "That's something you can't teach, you can't coach, you can't build that fire in someone. It has to be within."

"He's got a love for the game. That's something you can't teach, you can't coach, you can't build that fire in someone. It has to be within."

Dave Touchette
Columbia coach
on Reid Jones

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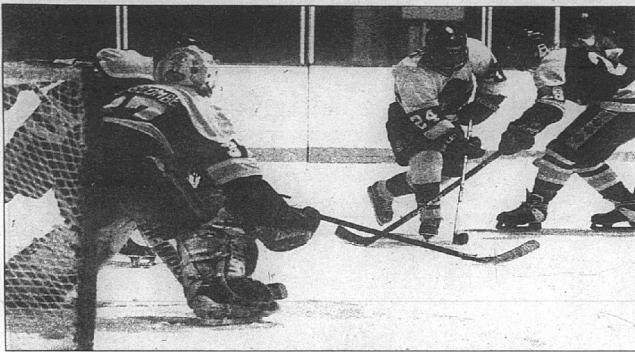
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Laura



Granite City's Bobby Scott (No. 24) works around an opposing defenseman. The Warriors defeated St. Charles (Mo.) 6-1 in their final game of the regular season.

Warriors net win in final game

6-10-3 MSCHA team hopes for postseason appearance

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

The Granite City Warriors shrugged off some chippy physical play and clobbered St. Charles (Mo.) 6-1 Thursday night at home in Mid-States Club Hockey Association play.

Senior Lenny Wilson got the Warriors on the board at 12:01 of the first period when his blast from the point sailed over the goalie's shoulder into the net.

After the Pirates tied, sophomore Danny Ferguson took a feed through the slot by Greg Pritchard and gave the Warriors the lead for good.

Pritchard scored on a five-on-three power play early in the second period to increase the Warriors' lead to 3-1.

Jon Burns then scored on a breakaway at 4:36 of the second, and Ty Suhre added a short-handed two minutes later. Greg Boyer tallied the sixth in the third period when the Warriors were again on the man advantage.

Once the game got out of reach, St. Charles truly played like Pirates — no-holds-barred. "Tonight is the last home game of the season and senior night, so we told everybody to go out and have a good time," Granite City coach Dave Yurkovich said.

"One thing I'm really happy about tonight is that we finally played as a team," he said. "We kept our composure. We didn't get

sucked into the stupid penalties the way they were, and it led to a 6-1 victory. That's the kind of thing we've been trying to get them to do all year long. It's taken this long to get through to them, but they are finally starting to realize that better things will happen if you just play through those things."

Junior Greg Pritchard did get tossed after an NHL-style battle.

"The kid came after him and took a couple of shots at him," Yurkovich said.

Senior Jon Burns kept his notoriously fiery temper and bruising physique in check in his last home game for the Warriors.

"He scored his first goal of the year and he did what we were talking about, being the better man," Yurkovich said. "Some guys were taking some shots at him, and he skated away. That was a positive step for him tonight, and hopefully, we can get some more positives out of him in the playoffs."

The Warriors, who improved to 6-10-3, now have to play a waiting game to see if they will have a shot in the postseason.

"We go to the playoff meeting next Wednesday," Yurkovich said. "I don't know the format yet, but I've been hearing some rumors that the format is going to change. If it doesn't change, then we will be in the playoffs. The standings aren't done yet. There are still some teams in our division that have to finish. I won't know anything concrete about where we will go until next Wednesday."

Illinois Warriors trounce East

Granite City's defense, special teams frustrate Lancers

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Dustin Wesley scored two goals to lead the Illinois Warriors to an easy 6-1 win over Belleville.

The two goals were sandwiched around the Lancers' only tally in the first period. Wesley has emerged again as a force for the Warriors late in the season.

"I got two goals in the Cahokia game, and I've just been trying to pick it up for the playoffs because I kind of started off slow, kind of like last year," Wesley said.

Granite City coach Paul Solberger said Wesley contributed more than just offense.

"That's probably the best game I've seen Dustin Wesley play since he's been with us," Solberger said. "He was flying. He had two goals and several opportunities to get his hat trick. He just played like he was determined, just flying. Not only was he doing it offensively, but he was backchecking. He came back and broke up some plays defensively. When he was down at their net, he just put his head down and came back. He was a workhorse tonight."

The Lancers outshot the Warriors 19-18 and had plenty of opportunities with the man advantage, but the Granite City penalty killing unit kept them dry.

"David Svezia and Dustin were out there, and they are so fast that they just shut the passing lanes down," Solberger said. "They are so quick that when the guy who has the puck hesitates for just a minute, they have his stick and they deflect his pass, and it doesn't go where the other team wants it to go. They did an excellent job of killing penalties tonight, as well as Bobby (Meszaros). Those three are so smart and quick, and especially tenacious, I think is the big thing."

Scott Bronnbauer took care



Dustin Wesley, right, scored twice for the Illinois Warriors against Belleville East Wednesday night.

of the defensive end for the Warriors. The sophomore goaltender continued his improved play between the pipes.

"Scotty is just getting better and better every game," Solberger said. "He and Brandon (Rollins) are both just sophomores, and it seems like they are building, getting more and more confidence. They are stepping up, cutting down the angles, not giving the guys much to shoot at and getting in front of the shots. That's the main thing. They are doing a pretty good job of controlling the rebounds also."

John Stordahl had two goals for the Warriors, and Billy Fior and Svezia each had one. The big lead gave Solberger an opening to empty his bench.

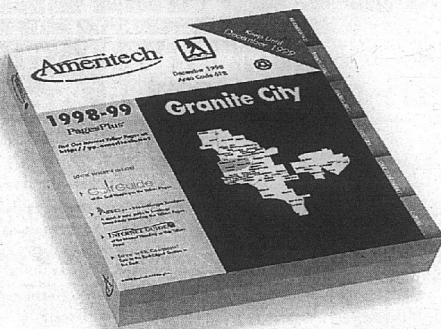
"This was a good opportunity to get some kids in the game," Solberger said. "I thought Timmy Knowlton jumped in there and made a beautiful pass to John Stordahl. I can't say enough about Timmy and Matt Salzman and Smitty (Raymond Smith). They work hard every practice. They know in a close game they are not going to get much playing time, but a lot of our success is attributed to those boys. When they get out

there, they try to do what they are assigned to do and I think they did that, along with Luke Forrester. That's essential to any good team, to have some depth, and they are just getting better and better."

The Warriors — who have won three consecutive games and boast a 3-0-2 record since a 7-2 loss to Collinsville on Jan. 6 — are sharpening the razor that they hope will cut a swath through the postseason.

"The regular season games are important for getting the position and seeding, but you want your team's play to peak at the playoffs," Solberger said. "What I hoped was that after our last game with Roxana (a 5-1 victory) that they wouldn't let down and be lackadaisical. I thought we had a pretty good effort tonight. The kids moved, and we controlled play. We let down a little bit in the first half of the second period, and I think that contributed to some penalties, and we let them put some substantial pressure on us. But overall, I think we dictated play and it was fairly lopsided. We just hope to carry on and take it to Belleville West this weekend."

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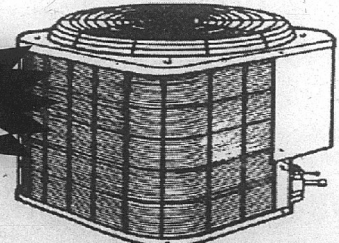
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Eagles Auxiliary holds first meeting

Nina Jackson opened the first meeting of the year for Granite City Eagles Auxiliary 1126, welcoming all 21 members in attendance. The roll call of officers was taken, and two officers were unable to attend.

Helen Paschedag served as pro-tem inside guard, Sherri Wilson, pro-tem outside guard and Sharon Case pro-tem vice president.

Vincine Zerlan, secretary read the minutes of the two previous meetings and Joanna Spencer, assistant secretary, read correspondence from Sue McCoy, past state president and Midwestern regional diabetes chair.

An invitation was read from Berwyn Auxiliary 2125 inviting all to attend their state officers' appreciation weekend on Feb. 12 and 13.

Catholic Charities and The Salvation Army thanked the Auxiliary for their donation

towards their Christmas for the needy. Andy Vollmer, Grand Aerie president, sent information on a newly formed HOME charity fund.

Everyone was asked to remember Andy in their prayers as his son recently had heart surgery and his mother passed away, as well as for Vera Johnson, who is in the nursing home.

Chris Von Nida, Jean Venne and Nadine Summers were remembered with get-well cards and Sharon Odom was sent a card for her father, Billy Uhl. Vera Johnson was remembered, as she is still in the nursing home.

A motion was made to excuse the inside guard and outside guard, as it was reported that Mary Church is still in North Carolina tending to her son, who is critically ill, and LaVerne Maizynski, who is out of the hospital and

recovering.

Joanna will serve as chairman for the state officers appreciation weekend. A luncheon will be served on and a banquet will also be held.

Angie Buehler proposed sponsoring the ritual team, and other members to attend the Seven-State Conference in Paducah, Ky., on Jan. 29 and 30. They will participate in competition with other auxiliaries throughout the territory.

Refreshments were served to those listed above and to Flo Stokes, Barbara Modrusic, Katie Kostoff, Marta Simpson, Pat Fritchett, Ann Pates, Evalene Ederle, Barbara Land, Hilda Melton, Tiny Turcott, Sharon Odom, Neva Benko, and Melody Thomure.

Prizes were won by Angie Buehler and Sherri Wilson. Phyllis Stone was not present to win the jackpot.



Granite City Eagles Auxiliary 1126 recently inducted a new member into the club during the Jan. 16 meeting. The class was named for state president Theresa McWhinney, who was visiting the club. From left are Melody Thomure, Sharon Odom, new member Bernardine Schmidt, auxiliary president Nina Jackson and McWhinney.

AARP offering income tax help for seniors

Again this year, the American Association of Retired People will offer free tax service to seniors 50 years of age and older.

Each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. until noon, from Feb. 2 through April 15, this service will be available.

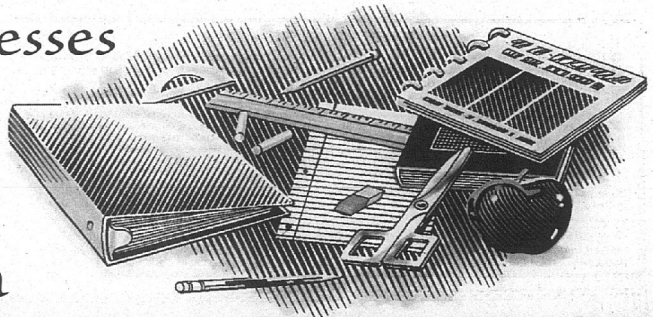
On Tuesdays, assistance will be available at Granite City Moose Lodge 272, located at 2521 Maryville Road. On Wednesdays, help will be at Union Planters Bank (formerly Magna Bank) at Bellemore Village. On Thursdays, help will be at Holy Family Catholic Church Community Center, located at 26th Street

and Washington Avenue.

Tax assistance services are available to people with incomes of \$35,000 or less.

For information or answers to questions, call Delton Groothuis at 797-0460 or George Sotiroff at 876-3752.

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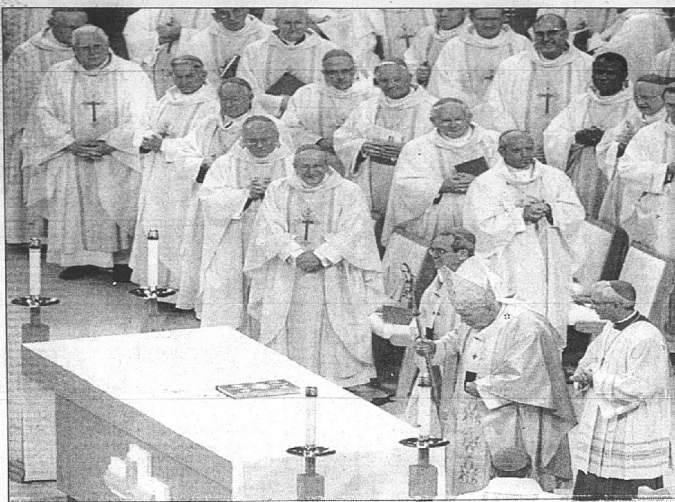
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Mike Viola photo
Pope John Paul II celebrates Mass at the Trans World Dome Wednesday as bishops and cardinals look on.

Edwardsville students get cable view of papal Mass

Pope's visit speeds up installation at school

By Steve Whitworth
Staff writer

The pupils at St. Boniface School in Edwardsville took part in Wednesday's papal Mass in St. Louis from some 20 miles away. Officials at St. Boniface, 110 N. Buchanan St., had the school wired with cable television especially for Pope John Paul II's visit to St. Louis so the children could watch the historic events.

"This spurred the installation," Principal Robert Mihalic said. "It was also done with the idea that they will have access to other programs in the future."

School officials got the necessary equipment and set it up during Christmas break. On Wednesday, they used the school's three television sets, as well as one brought in by a teacher and four that had been loaned by parents, to watch the pope's appearance at the Trans World Dome.

In one classroom, Mary Beth Earnhart combined her eighth-grade class with Therese Spellman's seventh-graders to watch the events.

As the pope made his way into the Trans World Dome and the preliminaries to the ceremony were shown, the pupils worked on an assignment. Each pupil had a copy of a special section from a newspaper. The children used the newspapers to help them answer the questions on a written quiz. Some of the pupils also had questions for their teachers, such as one boy who asked why the pope's hand trembled so noticeably.

"He's 78, and he has Parkinson's disease," Spellman answered.

Both Spellman and Earnhart said they had "goose bumps" while watching the pope on TV.

The children, dressed in their blue and white school uniforms, were quiet and attentive during the proceedings, and they responded along with the audience during the Mass.

The teachers provided a running commentary on the broadcast, often expanding on points made by the announcers or helping the students to understand the pope's remarks, which sometimes were barely audible or difficult to understand because of his accent.

"That's his shepherd's staff. It's called that because he's our shepherd, and we are his sheep."

Therese Spellman
Teacher

When the announcers mentioned there would be a prayer service Wednesday afternoon at the Basilica Cathedral of St. Louis with a rabbi taking part, Spellman took the opportunity to point out the pope's inclusiveness.

"He reaches out to ministers of other faiths." Later, the commentators referred to the vestments the pope would wear. The teachers had their pupils look in their newspapers to find more information about the vestments.

"It shows what he wears to say Mass, because he is a priest, too," Spellman said.

The children noticed when the teachers pointed out the pope's staff to them. "It's just like our crucifixes," several of them said. School officials had distributed crucifixes to the pupils modeled on the one adorning the pope's staff, and many of the children wore them around their necks.

"That's his shepherd's staff," Spellman said. "It's called that because he's our shepherd, and we are his sheep."

At one point, the pope's homily was especially relevant to the class when he said, "Catholic schools have been of priceless value to generations of children."

Two of the eighth-graders attended Tuesday night's youth rally and prayer service led by the pope at the Kiel Center in downtown St. Louis. Anne Pulliam, 13, of Glen Carbon, and Amanda Dezort, 14, of Edwardsville, said the experience was exciting.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Anne said. "It was fun," Amanda said. "There was a lot of energy in it."

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Fabled 'once in a blue moon' happens twice this year

By Kim Wright
Staff writer

The phrase "once in a blue moon" loses its meaning this year with two blue moons occurring on one tonight and one in March.

Blue moon, the name for the second full moon in a month, has a history of different meanings. The term "blue moon" has been around for more than 400 years, but during that time it has been used in several different ways. The current use of the term dates from 1937, where it

seems to have first appeared in the Maine Farmers' Almanac, according to the University of Virginia's Astrology Department's website.

The moon takes 29.5 days to make a cycle, so if a full moon occurs on the first or second day of the month, a second full moon will occur at the end of the month. February is the only month that can never have two full moons. If there isn't a full moon in February, which only happens every 19 years, then there will be two full moons in January and March, which is the case this year.

"It's simply calendar

numerology. By definition you could never have two full moons in the month of February," said Richard Schwartz, chairman of the physics and astronomy department at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The most common meaning of blue moon is a very uncommon event, according to University of Newfoundland Archivist Philip Hickson's website.

This stems from events which actually make the moon take on a bluish tint. Volcanic eruptions and fires can send dust particles into the air that make the moon appear blue.

"That's a physical blue

In the past, volcanic explosions of Indonesia's Mount Krakatau in 1883, Mexico's El Chichon in 1982 and Mount St. Helens in Washington in 1980 caused the moon to appear blue, according to the "Star Shack" website.

moon. Because it's very rare, people say, 'Once in a blue moon,' " Schwartz said.

In the past, volcanic eruptions of Indonesia's Mount Krakatau in 1883, Mexico's El Chichon in 1982 and Mount St. Helens in Washington in 1980 caused the moon to appear blue,

according to the "Star Shack" website.

According to Hickson's website, the earliest use of the term was as an obvious absurdity. And throughout the years it has been used in a number of ways as a symbol of sadness and loneliness.

Even though the moon will

not turn blue tonight it's still a good excuse to get out and look at the night sky, said Terry Ewyer, gallery assistant in the Space Exploration Gallery at the St. Louis Science Center.

"It's a good way to reacquaint yourself with the sky," Ewyer said.

Some Missouri pharmacies offer 42 flavors of prescription medication

By Nancy L. Ide
Staff writer

Pharmacist Alan Weissman believes children's prescription medications should come with this warning:

Administering this bad-tasting medication to your child several times daily for 10 to 14 days can lead to Parental Irritable-Nervous Syndrome and Temporary Family Insanity.

"The doctor didn't prescribe the medication just to annoy parents," Weissman said. "But so many parents literally have to chase and catch their kids to get them to take their medicine because it tastes bad. So getting the child to take a prescription medication is the most important thing."

Weissman, a pharmacist for

31 years, has found a solution to the problem of bad taste — in medicine, that is. His Medicine Shoppe pharmacies in Chesterfield, Florissant and Pacific offer 42 different flavorings, such as fruit punch, grape, bubble gum and chocolate, that can be added to liquid prescriptions to make them taste better.

"The flavors really, really make a difference," Weissman said. "Letting the child pick the flavor involves him or her in the medication therapy, and because it tastes good, we have a good chance of compliance. It really works."

Weissman began offering Flavorx brand flavorings about two years ago. The flavoring system, approved by the Food and Drug Administration, has proved to be very popular both with children and parents.

When a customer comes to

Weissman's pharmacy with a child's prescription, the pharmacist first checks with the patient's doctor to see if adding flavoring is OK. Then he or she consults the Flavorx manual, which lists drug names and the flavorings the company suggests would mix best with a drug.

Weissman gives the child a choice of a few flavors that are compatible with the drug and mixes the prescription. The child is then allowed to taste a small sample of the medication to make sure it tastes good.

"The most popular flavors are bubble gum and bubble gum-grape," Weissman said. "After I mix the flavor in the medicine, I can add more flavor or more sweetener, whatever the child wants."

After filling the prescription, Weissman provides the child

Weissman has had requests to flavor some adult medications, and for his animal customers, he can add chicken, tuna, liver or fish flavorings to prescriptions phoned in by veterinarians.

with a "compliance chart" to track when medication is taken. When the child brings the completed chart back to the pharmacy, he or she can choose a toy from Weissman's treasure chest.

"It's a bribe. No, no, I mean reward," Weissman said with a laugh.

"Basically, it means I will do what it takes to make sure the child gets better."

There are some flavors that can't be mixed with certain medications, because doing so would make the medicine taste bad or the flavoring would

have the potential to change the medication, Weissman said. For example, the Flavorx manual says amoxicillin tastes best with bubble gum or fruit flavorings. And some medications cannot be mixed with lemon or lemon-lime, because the flavoring is too acidic for the medication.

Flavoring adds \$4 to the cost of the prescription, he said. Weissman has had requests to flavor some adult medications, and for his animal customers, he can add chicken, tuna, liver or fish flavorings to prescriptions

phoned in by veterinarians.

"I made a chicken-flavored antibiotic for a dog yesterday," Weissman said. "I also filled a prescription for a hedgehog with a urinary tract infection."

"I asked the owner what the hedgehog eats, and he said, 'Insects.' Weissman said with a chuckle. "I don't have any insect flavoring, so I made that one chicken, too."

Human or not, Weissman is prepared to make prescriptions taste good for his customers.

State tax forms can be filed over Internet

Illinois taxpayers will be able to file their state income tax returns via the Internet.

The department has added Internet filing, on a pilot basis, to its stable of electronic filing options for the IL-1040 that include: Internet filing, available to 700,000 randomly selected taxpayers who received a special message on the cover of their 1040 booklets and can file by coming to a special Internet site.

• TeleFile, available to 500,000 taxpayers who received an insert in their state tax booklets and can file by making a 10-minute, toll-free telephone call.

• Direct Electronic Filing, available to 4.8 million taxpayers who meet qualifications spelled out in their state tax booklets and can file their taxes by going to a tax practitioner registered with the department.

The first electronically filed returns came with the introduction of the Direct Electronic Filing program that saw 813 participants in 1991. TeleFile was added for the 1994 filing

season. The two programs together totaled 615,000 returns during the 1998 filing season.

Those eligible for TeleFile will find a special message printed on the front of their IL-1040 booklets and a unique personal identification number printed inside the booklet.

Those eligible for TeleFile have a special four-page insert in their tax booklets.

Only taxpayers who are preselected for Internet filing and TeleFile are eligible to participate in those programs.

The Internet filing program has no cost to taxpayers and avoids the phone costs the department has experienced with TeleFile.

The current program is a limited pilot designed to test public acceptance and technical capabilities that will be expanded in the future.

All electronic filing programs offer taxpayers confirmation of filing, reductions in errors and quicker refunds by eliminating data entry from paper forms.

The Illinois Historical Society says the cabin may date back to the late 1700s or early 1800s, making it one of the oldest structures in Illinois.

Many residents and village officials feared that if a company could not be located

Historic log cabin moves next to museum

By Darrell Howlett
Staff writer

As a jet soared into the skies over Bethalto, a historic structure took a slower journey to its new home.

A log cabin, which was located inside the former home of Robert Sparks, made its way to a new location next to the Bethalto Museum on West Main Street on Jan. 19.

The cabin, previously located at 424 Fourth St., was discovered underneath Sparks' original home when the home caught fire last year.

The cabin was placed on a steel platform while being transported. The Sparks, along with sons Jonathan, 16, Tony, 14, and Sam, 9 — are living in an apartment in Bethalto until a new home is completed.

The Illinois Historical Society says the cabin may date back to the late 1700s or early 1800s, making it one of the oldest structures in Illinois.

Many residents and village officials feared that if a company could not be located

to move the cabin, the structure would have been destroyed.

Residents turned out along the street throughout the day to witness the cabin being moved.

"If that house could talk, I bet it would tell a lot of stories," said neighbor Jim Roberson.

Work crews from cable, telephone and utility companies were placed on standby throughout the day in case any electrical lines had to be moved. Several phone lines were disconnected to allow the structure to proceed down Fourth Street. The journey took several hours.

Small scale beef production handbook available

University of Illinois animal science educator and livestock specialist says he is sure they have a winner with the "Small Scale Beef Production Handbook."

While the number of large livestock operations has dwindled in Illinois, there are plenty of agriculture professionals who raise a few head of cattle on the side, and they are always looking for ways to make their operations more economically beneficial. "Small Scale Beef Production Handbook" may just be the answer they've been looking for.

According to Ed Ballard, Extension educator in animal sciences, 75 percent of the producers who raise livestock in Illinois have part-

time beef operations.

"Small scale livestock producers need a dependable resource that is targeted to the smaller type of operation," Ballard said. "Until now, they've had to pick up pieces of information here and there or sift through the dense handbooks meant for large-scale beef production. This new publication will save them lots of time."

The handbook also is an excellent resource for vocational agriculture teachers. "The easy-to-read text contains photos and tables that put information right at the reader's fingertips. It will work well as an introductory text in the community college classroom or as support material for 4-H projects, especially for superior young

producer applicants.

Copies of "Small Scale Beef Production Handbook" are available at University of Illinois Extension offices at 900 Hillsholm, Edwardsville, and at 1 S. Third, Belleville. The publication costs \$7.

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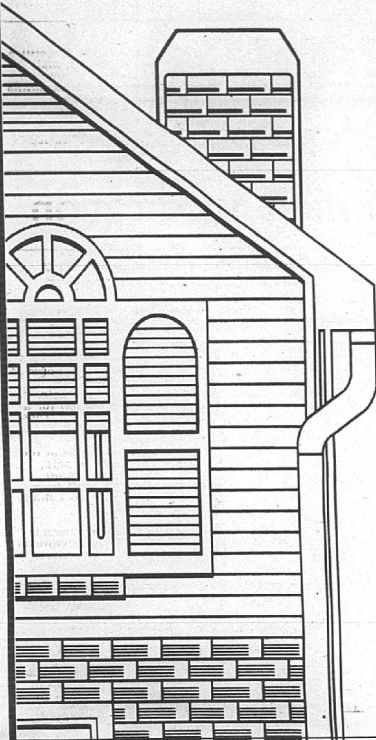
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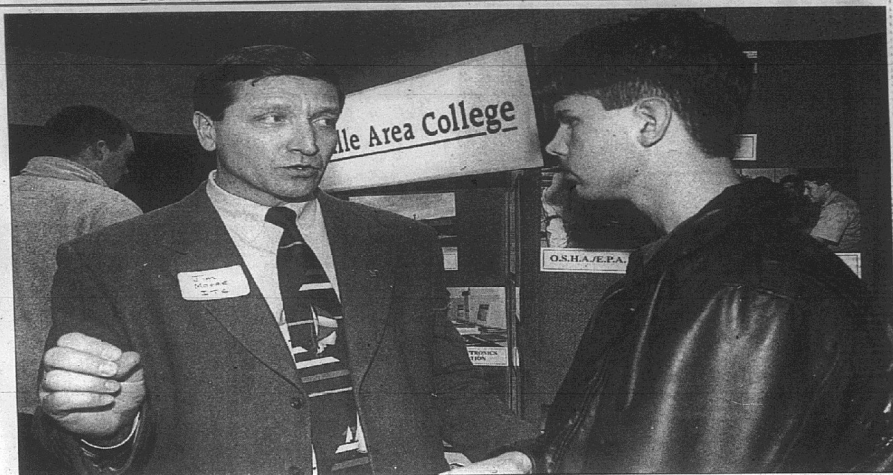
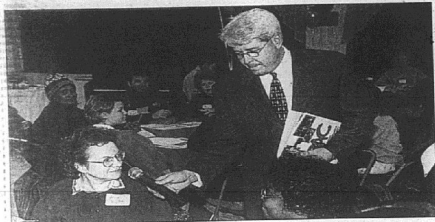
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School News

BAC Student Orientation



BAC photos

More than 100 individuals attended the recent Spring 1999 Student Orientation held by Belleville Area College. New BAC students and their guests had the opportunity to stop at booths promoting college programs and services during the event. Above, Jim Moore, director of the BAC Industrial Training Center, talks with Cahokia resident Jason Bell, right, an Electrical/Electronic Technology student who attends BAC's Granite City campus. At left, Alice Boothe of Belleville offers her thoughts on what makes a student successful as counselor Toby Brown, right, listens. Below, Shatonya Eberhart of Belleville, left, Gaynisha Allen of East St. Louis and Jennifer Madrid of Collinsville get a start on their college educations.

BAC photos



Counselor Roger Eckert talks with James Lane of Lenzburg. Lane, a student at BAC's Granite City Campus, is taking classes toward an Industrial Machinist certificate.



Six positions recently filled at BAC

Belleville Area College has hired Philip Carlock, Lyn Rhoades, Toby Brown, Pat Crowe, Anne Mastromatteo and Mark Jodkowski.

Philip Carlock of South St. Louis County joins Belleville Area College as the dean of Learning Resources. His duties include overseeing the operations of the college's libraries, distance learning and telecourse programs, as well as print shop and audiovisual departments for all three campuses.

He and Janet Carlock, his wife of 36 years, have two grown daughters: Cindy Snyder and Cathy Lorenz.

Lyn Rhoades, 25, of Mascoutah has joined Belleville Area College's Office of Admissions and Records as an admissions specialist.

Rhoades recently served as a human resources generalist and customer service representative for Lab Home Health Care Inc. in Fairview Heights.

Toby Brown of Okawville has joined the Belleville Area College faculty as a counselor in the college's counseling department.

He leaves his post as a BAC admissions specialist to assume his counselor role. Brown's professional experience includes counselor posts with Kaskaskia College and the Upward Bound program at St. Louis University.

The Nashville native and his wife, Holly, have two children: Bennett and Abigail.

Pat Crowe of South St. Louis County has joined Belleville Area College as director of Public Information and Marketing. Her responsibilities include developing, coordinating and implementing a comprehensive marketing and promotion program for the college, and disseminating the public information regarding the college.

Prior to joining BAC, Crowe served as account team leader

for The Vandiver Group, a public relations, marketing and strategic planning firm in St. Louis.

Anne Mastromatteo, 36, of New Baden has joined Belleville Area College's Office of Non-Traditional Programs as an administrative assistant.

For the past five years, Mastromatteo has worked as a sales assistant for the investment firm of Advest in Chesterfield, Mo.

She and her husband of 13 years, Frank, a BAC public safety officer, have a 10-year-old son, Nicholas.

Mark Jodkowski has joined the BAC faculty as coordinator of New Sign Language Program. Jodkowski, 40, comes to BAC from Nebraska's Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing where he served as a field representative.

Jodkowski and his wife, Donna, reside in St. Louis, with their three sons: Zachary, Jeremy and Nicholas.

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Clinical Research Associates of Edwardsville, urgently needs volunteers age 18 and over with Depression to participate in research studies comparing investigational drugs with available antidepressant medication and placebo. If you or someone you know has depression please give us a call. Symptoms include:

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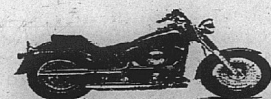
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Russ Taff

Russ' new album is the most powerful, profoundly realized chapter in one of modern music's most compelling chronicles of life. Having shown his command of almost every genre of music imaginable, Russ now refines and retools the signature rock/pop sound that has made him one of the defining talents of his time. Graced by one of the world's truly great voices, the project displays a seasoned, mature artist and human being at the very top of his form.

"Nobody needs a prophet who comes back again and again with the very same message, or a pastor who preaches the identical sermon every week," Russ continues, "or an artist who continually remakes essentially the same album. I'm constantly searching and experimenting, and trying to further this gift God has given me. Still, I never want to distance myself from the best of what's come before. If you took everything I've ever recorded, mixed it together in a big melting pot, then poured it into the mold of who I am today, this album is what you'd come out with. It's as honest and complete a picture as I can paint."

In 1995, Russ released his first foray into modern music with "Winds Of Change" for Warner Brothers/Nashville. He spent the better part of the next two years touring with a number of major country artists, interspersing those shows with concerts of his contemporary Christian hits for both his own enjoyment and spiritual nourishing, and that of his original, long-standing fans.

"I was part of the Young Messiah tour in 1997," says Russ, "and it showed me how much I missed singing and feeling the anointing of a powerful gospel song. That had been a part of me all my life, and you don't find it anywhere else." That yearning translated into a new relationship with Benson, and the eighth solo album in one of Christian music's most long lived and ever-evolving success stories. But as Russ heads out on the tour bus again, it is with a new wisdom, hard-won from a life filled with its share of both bruises and blessings.

"There was a time when I was so full of 'religion' that I couldn't see Christ through all the dogma," Russ says. "Now I'm filled with hope because I know that God really is in control, and I can be excited about whatever lies ahead. The more natural it becomes to trust and turn things over to Him, the more His truths become my truths . . . His life, my life. And it's the most natural things I do now that have the most power."

HARVEST ASSEMBLY

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News

SEMC marks Patient Recognition Week

At the end of this century and the current millennium, there seems to be a resurgence of the philosophy that bigger is better.

More people are trading their compact cars for a monster SUV's. Computers are boasting ever-increasing disk drive space. CD players now hold hundreds of discs.

While our tastes for super-sized burger meals, monster tacos and everything large may indicate a healthy economy, bigger is not always better when it comes to health care.

St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City may not be the largest medical facility in the St. Louis area, but when a medical need arises, it's often not size that matters, but speed and quality of care.

According to St. Elizabeth CEO Sister Mary Thomas, in a case of a person with a heart attack or stroke, it's important to get help as quickly as possible. Since the medical center is located in Granite City, valuable time can be saved by transporting patients here rather than across the river.

In addition to quick access in medical emergencies, Sister Thomas also feels that the relationship of staff members to each other and their length of tenure are important to patient care.

"If you have frequent turnover among your top people," she said, "then you really don't have the continuity of care. A large amount of our directors have been with us for many years."

Employees of the medical center are called associates. "Wal-Mart calls their people associates," Sister Thomas said, "and I think that we called our people associates long before they did because we feel they don't work with each other, they work with each other. This aids improving the quality of care that we provide our patients."

In order to reflect on their dedication to patients, the medical center joins medical staffs across the country in celebrating National Patient Recognition Week from Feb. 1 to 7.

"Although we are committed to our patients all year long," said Susan Bausch, St. Elizabeth Medical Center quality customer service coordinator, "this week reminds us that when it comes to our commitment to their well-being, we should put 'careism' before capitalism."

With this in mind, the medical center started a program in 1997 to allow customers to evaluate the associates. It's called the Star of Excellence award and to

date, 44 have been presented.

"We don't ask patients for feedback because we don't want to invade their privacy," Bausch said. "But a lot of times, we get feedback from them about certain associates. We get thank-you notes. We get letters asking that certain associates be recognized."

"The managers use this information when they do their scoring for the award," Bausch continued. "Associates are evaluated on how they interact with the patients on a

daily basis. The award system identifies and rewards those behaviors that our patients say are important to them, whether it's a smile, a caring attitude or listening well."

"I wouldn't be in this job of St. Elizabeth if it were not for how we treat our patients or if they were just worried about dollars," Bausch continued.

"We solicit information from our customers all the time to try to improve our services."

Silk Floral Arranging

If You Want Spring Flowers in February, Look No Further!

FRANK'S

NURSERY & CRAFTS

Where Beautiful Things Begin

A s recently as just the last couple of years the quality of silk flowers, greenery, and trees has undergone

such vast improvement, that today you may have difficulty distinguishing a real flower from its silk cousin. In fact, as the old saying goes, in many cases, you really do have to touch them to see if they're real. As a result, the genuine, natural look of these "permanent florals," coupled with an equally impressive increase in the diversity of containers to put them in, has given today's "floral artist" almost endless decorating possibilities. As anyone who has decorated with silk flowers knows, you can change the entire look and mood of a room with just one simple arrangement.

Look Mom! No Watering! Decorating with silks has its advantages, the most obvious of which is that they never die. And silk flowers, bushes and trees require very little maintenance.

Unless you want to change the container they are in, or rearrange the bouquet, they only require a little cleaning and dusting once or twice a year. No watering, no balancing the pH of the soil, and no concerns about light or cold. And to make things easier, silk spray cleaners are now available at stores such as Frank's. You simply spray it on and wipe clean!

A Garden of Silk Florals The silk floral industry has done a terrific job keeping up with nature's prolific bounty. Frank's carries dozens of varieties, including roses, hydrangeas, lilies, magnolias, baby's breath, dew drop roses, mums, and many more. It's up to you to get creative and arrange silk flowers in a way that pleases you and is flattering to your home. But if you feel you don't have the time to create your own arrangements, there are plenty of pre-made arrangements available that would look beautiful in any home.

Cascading Silk Greenery Today's silk greenery is a very hot commodity. After all, nothing can brighten your mood or chase away the winter blues like lots of green. The newest ferns and spider plants are beautiful in hanging baskets (many come in their own baskets) and they are remarkably

true to life. But no greenery collection would be complete without Pothos and Ivy. You can achieve many different looks with these varieties... for example, you may want to place them in a basket, on an end table, or for a more sophisticated look, hang them somewhere where the leaves can cascade down a wall, shelf, or bookshelf.

Topiaries and Trees Topiaries and trees represent another booming home decorating category. Ficus trees are one of the most popular permanent floral products on the market today. Frank's lifelike topiaries are smaller than trees, but they artfully integrate the elegance of sculpture and design with the beauty of nature. Topiaries and trees are both sure to introduce a compelling sense of drama into any room in your house.

Bottoms Up The type of container you put your floral arrangement in can make a difference. For example, if you wanted to go for a country look, you might want to consider using a basket. For a more elegant look, a brass container works fine. And you should not think that "outdoor planters" are off limits... there are many beautiful ones that work just fine indoors. If you're feeling "creative," you can design and decorate your own containers. You can use just about anything to decorate containers, including paint, mosaic tiles, clay and more... just let your imagination be your guide.

Get the Kids Involved Floral arranging is an activity suitable for kids age four and above. They can even make their own containers using everything from pictures and stickers to legos and crayons. The big secret? Anything goes!

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Even 'healthy' fast food has many traps

Temptations to eat are everywhere: TV ads that take you to fast-food restaurants and alluring smells from cookie shops in malls and bakeries in supermarkets. It's difficult to go anywhere and not be bombarded by food.

If losing a few pounds was one of your New Year's resolutions, here are a few tips for reducing both the fat and calories from some fast-food options:

* When you are hungry for beef, choose roast beef, not hamburger. The fattiest roast beef is leaner than the leanest hamburger meal.

* Say "no" to creamy sauces like mayonnaise and tartar sauce. They add about 100 calories of fat to each sandwich.

* Skip the "extra crispy" coatings on chicken and fish. They add a lot more fat and calories.

* Order your baked potato plain or with vegetables. Other toppings add fat. A sour cream topping alone is a slightly better choice than butter, margarine or cheese.

* Try baked or broiled fish and chicken. They contain less fat and calories than deep fried. Don't be fooled: Deep fried fish and chicken have as much or more fat and calories as the burgers they compete with.

* Use low-cal dressings, and only one packet. A 2-ounce packet of regular dressing can add up to 200 calories to your salad. Using two packets turns your healthy salad into a fat- and calorie-laden salad that has about as many calories as the burger you thought was so fattening.

By Tom St

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 without electric. Stone
 on parking
 gated garage
 618-345-0936 or 618



10 ANSWER
 Berlin and New York City

6000 sq ft. Ideal location. Minutes from Hwy 171 and Rte 270. 618-451-6362.

2530 OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

OFFICE SUITES AVAILABLE. Granite City area. 700 to 900 sq ft. Excellent location. Call 618-451-0362.

On The

HOUSES

Classified Ads Work!!!



By Rita Glasstris, GRI, CRS

FLOOD REALTY CENTRE • 931-2600

OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, JAN. 31, 1993 12:00-3:00
HOSTESS: JUDY HOFSTOT
2100 ANGELA, GRANITE CITY
078-2940

Get Cabin Fever? Come by and see us at this charming new home-overlooking the river. Features include: hardwood floors, maintenance free brick ranch with spa area, room with fireplace, recently remodeled kitchen, 1400 hours. Asking \$149,000 per month. If you are interested, call Judy at 931-278-6000 or 931-278-6001.

OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, JAN. 31, 1993 1:00-3:00
HOSTESS: MARY CHRISTOPHER
7020 ANGEL, GRANITE CITY
078-2940

BRAND NEW LISTING - Bedroom, 2 bath stone style home with a full basement and 2 car garage. This new constructed home is on the edge of town and is priced under \$100,000. Come by and see Mary for a personal tour!

An Impossible Dream

Sally and Sam are Barbie and Ken of the career world. Beautiful Big Salaries. Big ambitions. Executive level supplies climbing the corporate ladder fast.

Two years ago Sally and Sam bought a house. Gorgeous. Expensive. Like a castle. Magnificent totally private backyard. Perfect for watching the stars in a hot tub, which they installed immediately. To the tune of \$11,000. To shield it, they embarked on an underground project. One thing leading to another it cost an additional \$25,000.

Inside more changes were made. Carpeting was replaced with lush top of the line. Custom window treatments were ordered. Expensive. \$9,000. Remove their furniture. They had a new look.

For details, call 931-278-6000 or 931-278-6001.

Owner
 1/2 acre ranch,
 3.4 acres,
 w/ furnace.
 2 Decks,
 1st Floor Room,
 use to L255
 & L270
 Call
88-9459

Circle your interest

**Move your Home Into One of
 our Beautiful Communities**

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EAST 30 MANUFACTURED

enough in its elegant new setting, they undertook upgrading. Another \$27,000. When added up Sally and Sam had spent more than \$84,000.

Sally just got the word she's made it up another rung on the ladder. Only to get there requires a move to another town. And selling the house.

Sally and Sam called their real estate agent. Great lady. Experienced. Knowledgeable. Calm. Till Sally and Sam told her what they expected.

Sally and Sam had paid \$250,000 for their house. Figuring, \$84,000 + for extras, plus a real estate commission and a 3 percent appreciation factor per year, they said they would accept nothing less than a \$372,000 sale price. A grandiose 48 percent increase over purchase price.

Sound like an absurd scenario? It happens.

Too often sellers like Sally and Sam spend a fortune making their house reflect their tastes and expect to recoup the cost when they sell. It just doesn't happen.

Sally and Sam had not put \$84,000 "in the house" as they felt.

great room, din-
room, fireplace
cent., oversized
and more.

BUILDING LOTS
"Elkay Meadows"
heals
"Kaffington Heights"
City Schools
1 Acre Lot
All Schools
"Country Manor"
All Schools
Call
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ANYTIME
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er's Associa-
tional
ne Realty Centre

HOUSING COMMUNITY & SALES
Glen Carbon, IL
270 North to Exit 12 South - Follow to Glen Crossing Rd. Go Right

**VILLAGE GREEN MANUFACTURED
HOUSING COMMUNITY & SALES**
Pontoon Beach, IL
E270 North Exit 6A (Hwy 111) S. to Pontoon Beach, Go Right On Lake Dr. Go Left.

**★ FOR DETAILS
CALL DAVE OR DEB (618) 288-9222**

SUBURBAN AREA MORTGAGE RATES
15-year 3.5%
20-year 3.5%
30-year 3.5%
1-year 3.5%

They had spent the money personalizing it, not improving it. Nothing was changed structurally. The carpet, furniture, landscaping, painting, etc. may have enhanced the property aesthetically. But to a prospective buyer with perhaps differing tastes it had no value.

If you are a seller who has spent a bundle customizing and personalizing your house and expect to recover the cost, be prepared for disappointment. Unfortunately your thoughts are an impossible dream.

First Class, GRI, CRI is a full time real estate agent serving the metropolitan area for over 16 years. She is a multi-million dollar producer, a member of the Chicago's Excellence Club, and a Life Member of Masson's Million Dollar Club. Readers wanting topics discussed are invited to send requests to: O. The House, Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, 63131.

GRANITE CITY/ VICINITY	Institution	Phone #	SUV		Fixed		Jumbo		FHA		ARM		Comments and Additional Programs
			rate	pts	rate	pts	rate	pts	rate	pts	rate	pts	
1/28 ARM REFINANCED large family room large kitchen ground pool, edge of lake, 2 car garage, tax ready \$550,000	Enterprise Mortgage	618-235-6000	6.750	0.00	6.500	0.00	7.125	0.00	-	-	6.000	0.00	Slow credit OK! Consolidate your Holiday Bills!
	Midco Mortgage Svcs	314-961-0079	7.000	0.00	6.500	0.00	7.000	0.00	-	-	6.250	0.00	3/1 ARM - 6.375% - 5/1 6.625% - SLOW CREDIT OK
	Mid-America Mgt Svcs	618-281-8676	6.875	0.00	6.625	0.00	7.125	0.00	7.000	0.00	6.000	0.00	Call for FREE PRE-QUALIFICATION
	MID RIVERS Mortgage	618-992-4280	7.500	0.00	6.375	0.00	6.875	0.00	6.875	1.00	6.000	0.00	Call NOW for FREE Pre-Approval. SLOW Credit OK.
HOUSE SUN 1.3PM large 1st floor nice 3BR, brick split level, 2 car garage, professionally landscaped, moderated lake, new	Professional Mortgage	314-966-2600	6.125	3.00	5.625	3.00	6.500	3.00	-	-	5.875	0.00	"When Experiences Change" on the "1998 Builder of the Year"
	Signature Mortgage	314-949-3131	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	No Cloning (not ref's avail. Weekend Call return in minutes, signature-mtg

Information provided by The National Financial News Service. Rates are valid as of January 28, 1999 and are subject to change without notice. Please contact lenders directly for additional rates and services. OK. All rates are based on a single-family home and a \$100,000 loan. Jumbo based on a \$250,000 loan. Floors include discount and origination fees. ARM caps are 2% annual and 6% lifetime (based on a 1.5% floor). Check rates informative daily on the Internet at <http://www.afm.com>. © 1991-1996 NPS. Lenders willing to participate in this survey, call (800) 905-NPNS.



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Realty Centre

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00-7:00 DAILY, OPEN SUNDAY
 Visit us on the Internet: <http://www.imsplus.com/remax>
 E-mail: remax@iw.edwpub.com
 800.622.2422, 848.622.2422, 848.622.2422, 848.622.2422

ONE PROFESSIONAL PARK DR.
 CORNER HWY 159 & 162
 MARYVILLE, IL 62062

288-7100

DISCOUNT INDEPENDENT OWNED & OPERATED

NEW LISTINGS

COUNTRY SETTING ON 1 ACRE
3BR 2 story with 2000 sq. ft. features large kitchen, screened porch, 1st floor laundry, oversized garage & pool. Family room, fireplace, wet bar & 1/2 bath in walkout LL. Minutes from Scott AFB & shopping. Beautiful home Great location! \$159,900. #CA5866. MARY PORTER 341-2827.

WONDERFUL FLOOR PLAN! Vaulted ceiling & fireplace in great room, formal DR, large ME w/walk-in closet, first floor laundry, quality linoleum, & white trim, full bath, bay windows. \$159,900. #CS5865. MARY PORTER 341-2827.

LOOK NO FURTHER! 4BR home, linoleum, room, formal DR & walk-in closet. \$159,900. #CA5866. MARY PORTER 341-2827.

NEW CONSTRUCTION • OPEN SUNDAY
STOREBRIE
LOT 187
\$139,900
ALSO OPEN
LOT 87 \$159,900
LOT 88 \$159,900
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LOT 311 \$159,

DO YOU LIKE TO FISH?
home w/ lake maintained - 2BR
home with many updates.
Screened in porch with attached
patio & deck, fenced back yard &
large lot \$137,000 #75865
ROZANNE HUNTER 667-0249 or
JAN ALDINS 667-3981

APPROX. 1 ACRE! Full brick ranch,
4BR's, nice sized family room,
large eat-in kitchen, covered
patio, fenced yard, lot 1 1/2 car
garage, security system. Call
today for your showing.
\$159,000 #75875 ROZANNE
HUNTER 667-0249

kitchen, large family room,
additional decking & looking at
this and more for \$124,900.
#75873 ROZANNE HUNTER 667-
0249

LARGE OPEN FLOOR PLAN Bay in
kitchen, family room & game
room in finished LL, see thru gas
fire, large 2 tiered deck, \$168,900
#75877 JAN OR TERRY 288-1945.

Building Site
Large corner lot in wooded area.
Level flat, exclusive area. \$36,900.
#75878 JAN OR TERRY 288-1945

Farms Golf Community. White
cabinets & 6 panel doors, fin-
ished garage. #135930
#M5830 JAN OR TERRY 288
1944.

QUALITY WALKOUT 2 STORY IN
STONEBRIDGE FARMS GOLF
COMMUNITY 4BR's & 3 car fin-
ished garage. \$159,900.
#M5831 JAN OR TERRY 288-
1944.

New Construction

 <p>NEW CONSTRUCTION! 3BR ranch, large master BR w/walk-in closet & luxury master bath, side entry 3-car garage, corner lot. \$158,700. MS#794. MARY PORTER 341-2827.</p> 	 <p>JEFFERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT! Story & a half with 3BR's, 2 baths, built-in fireplace, newer furnace & C/A, planter, fenced yard. Loaded with charm! \$79,900. 2C#862. MARY PORTER 341-2827.</p>	<p>NEW FLOOR PLAN IN STONERIDGE GOLF COMMUNITY! W/GOLF course view! 1 1/2 story, 3-car garage, see thru fireplace. \$163,900. MS#841. JAN OR TERRY 288-1944.</p>  <p>NEW CONSTRUCTION! Spectacular ranch featuring side entry garage, cathedral ceilings in great room, hardwood entry. \$169,800. 2C#840. SUSAN JO JENKINS 654-1819.</p>
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SUNDAY, JAN. 31ST, 1-3 PM



TUCKED AWAY on quiet cul-de-sac this nice 4 room brick offers large eat-in kitchen, full basement, carpet, frame warranty and more. **RG334.**

MULTI-FAMILY DEVELOPMENT - Fully rented, 2+ acres to build more units if needed. Can be purchased separately or as a package. Located in desirable area. **RG325**

2731 WARREN
Well maintained, fireplace, 2 car garage

NEW LISTING - Approximately 2,000 sq. ft. executive ranch home available for you! Recently updated with new carpet & tile throughout, privacy fenced yard. **GR011.**

NEW LISTING - Large brick ranch style 3 car garage, huge living/dining combo, cozy den, main level fireplace, large open home that's very well maintained. **GR005**

NEW LISTING - 1 1/2 story in Madison area, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, nice size kitchen, partial basement, 2 car garage. **M225**

NEW LISTING - Four family in downtown area - could be office building, many updates including wiring & plumbing. **GR012**

A PERFECT BEGINNING - Cozy 3 BR has nice kitchen, fireplace, full bathroom, living room, 24 ft. pool deck & deck in privacy fenced yard. **GR301**

NICE AND NEAT - 2 story home - Newer kitchen cabinets & flooring, living room, has open, staircase area, 2 car garage, full basement, 1 car garage. **GR361.**

LOVELY BILVEL in choice neighborhood! Updated kitchen, new carpet, range, dishwasher, 3 BR, carpet over hardwood floors, 2 car garage. **GR333.**

FORMER HARDWARE STORE - Property sold "as is" - store area is 3,950 sq. ft. with 2 commercial basement, two apartments. **GR393.**

GREAT POTENTIAL FOR NEW BUSINESS - Commercial building, 3000 sq. ft., building, fencing, 234' x 140' lot. **PR276.**

WILD AND BEAUTIFUL - 3000 sq. ft. on 2 acre lot in Arling Heights! Call for info today.

2 CLEVELAND BUILDINGS 100' x

your opportunity. #3641

NEW LISTING - Great commercial property available - Over 2,000 sq. ft. office space, lots of parking, new central air, call today! **GR009**

NEW LISTING - Cute and clean 2BR home has carpet, central air, new central, newer central air & water heater. Basement has very usable work area. **Corporate #3607**

CVM REALTY WELCOMES

JO ANN MATHERIA -
A licensed broker and multi-million dollar producer with 20+ years experience in listing and selling homes in the Metro area. Call today at **931-2711 or 452-1009**

CONNIE MORRIS - A
931-2711

130' GR346.

INVESTMENT SPECIAL - 2,250 sq. ft. duplex has steel siding, full basement, stove & refrigerator, 2 car garage - invest and profit. **GR265.**

ATTRACTIVE AND NEAT - home with carpet, central air, new central air, new roof, window coverings, stove, c/a, gas grill, dirt lot. **Corporate #3607**

FOR SALE OR LEASE - 6000 sq. ft. building on 1/2 x 125' lot, zoned R-3. Will lease at \$500/mo. **GR271**

PRICED TO SELL! Well kept home offers 2 car garage, new kitchen, bathroom, screened front porch - bargain priced in \$249,900. **GR270**

LIVE IN COMFORT - Newer 2 story with walk-in cooler & full bath in Master BR, nice kitchen with dishwasher, new carpet, stove patio doors to patio, 2 car garage. **PR254**

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOT - Well established subdivision - call for details. **C266.**



JEANET PARTNEY - A realtor for 11 years, president of the U. S. Board of Realtors, very active in the community. She has 3 children and a grandmother.
521-2711 or 782-3412

THINKING OF BUILDING?



Residential building lots starting at \$16,000
SPRINGFIELD ESTATES
MITCHELL, IL
 Located on Springfield Rd. off E. Chain of Rocks. Rd. Agent Owned



NEW LISTING - Levely 1 1/2 story offers 3BR, 3 bath, vaulted ceiling, large living room w/ fireplace, 1st floor laundry, formal dining, eat-in kitchen main floor, Jacuzzi, ... so many extras. 684-044

NEW LISTING - 3 BR home with basement, new heating, new kitchen, new tile in main

JEANETTE HOLDER.....	738-1888
CARA AHLVERS.....	324-2747
JAN BONE.....	738-0263
KRIST DOMAGALSKI.....	782-7711
CHRISTI GLASGOW.....	782-3547
MARY HARPER.....	738-1890
JO ANN MATHEIA.....	451-1291

priced under \$30,000. **GR268**

NEW LISTING - Investor's Special - Large home needs some fix-up. Make offer as-is. **1st. MOBS.**

PAINTS - Acres from Wilson Park, this charming cape cod offers 3 BR, 2 baths, formal dining, large, open staircase, family room, 2 car garage - a once in a lifetime opportunity. **GR202**

OLD TOWN CHARM! - Ready for you to call HOME! 3BR, furr. dining room, nice kitchen. **GR388**

FORMER RESTAURANT/BAR - 5,100 sq. ft. - bar, 100 seats, 1000 sq. ft. of storage, 35,000 sq. ft. parking lot, 2.5 +/- acres located near I-270 and Hwy. 111. **PS277**

CONNIE MORRIS.....782-3412

JANET PARTNEY.....782-5140

LYNN RIEGER-CARR.....931-4809

LUCINDA SCHMIDT.....583-6398

BOB SIMON.....782-1818

JERRY STUBBLEFIELD.....782-8926

VICKY WALTON.....782-2016

BARB WYATT-YUST.....738-2000



SUPERSTARS.

DITTO.

ANSWERS INSIDE TODAY'S CLASSIFIED SECTION!

You can WIN a trip for two to Ft. Myers, Florida, for the show of "Champions On Ice", or one of 25 sets of 4 tickets to "Champions On Ice" at Kiel Center on Wednesday May 5, 1999, plus a souvenir program, or one of 25 COOL Westfield Shoppingtowns \$25 gift certificates, or one of 25 "Champions On Ice" T-shirts, or one of 100, 1/2 gallon Schnucks Ice Cream, courtesy of Schnuck's Markets.

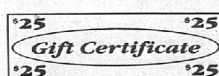
All the answers are in your Colossal Classifieds section today! Be cool! Be a part of it!

 Altair Travel & Cruises

FT. MYERS, FLORIDA
Trip for two, PLUS tickets to
see the show of
"Champions On Ice"



25 SETS OF 4 TICKETS
To John Hancock
"Champions On Ice"
Wednesday, May 5, 1999



Westfield
SHOPPINGTOWNS
**1 OF 25, \$25 "COOL"
GIFT CERTIFICATES**
from Westfield
Shoppingtowns



1 OF 25
"CHAMPIONS ON ICE"
T-SHIRTS



**1 OF 100
1 1/2 GALLON
ICE CREAM**
from Schnuck's

GRAND PRIZE FIRST PRIZE SECOND PRIZE THIRD PRIZE FOURTH PRIZE

YES! I want to enter the Colossal Classifieds "Champions on Ice" Contest!
Here's my official entry!
 (If you need additional space for your answers, please write them on a separate piece of paper.)

QUESTIONS

1. What city hosted the first official Winter Olympics?
2. Name the only American to win three Olympic Medals in Figure Skating?
3. Who is the "Champion On Ice" skater nick-named "Jumpin Joe"?
4. Name the authors of "To Catch a Dream"?
5. How many Olympic Gold Medalists will appear in the "Champions On Ice" 1999 Winter Tour?
6. How many years has it been since Dorothy Hamill won the Olympic gold medal in Innsbruck, Austria?
7. At what age did Elizabeth Punsalan and Jerod Swallow, five-time U.S. dance champions begin to skate?
8. Who is the organizer of the Skate Against Hate show?
9. Name the pairs skaters that are cast members of "Champions On Ice"?
10. Where is Katarina Witt's hometown?

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Home Phone: _____

**For Additional Information Call The Colossal "COOL" Line At 821-1157x106
GET COLOSSAL RESULTS WHEN YOU BUY AND SELL IN CLASSIFIEDS!
CALL (314) 966-FAST or 1-800-766-FAST TODAY!**

Drop off your entry no later than Friday, February 5, 1999 at 1714 Deer Tracks Trail. Or send to : Colossal Classifieds Contest, Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, MO 63131. See official rules to enter.

SPONSORED BY:



Suburban Journals



COLOSSAL CLASSIFIED RULES & REGULATIONS

1. No purchase is necessary to enter and receive prizes. All contest questions and answers will be posted February 1, 1999 in the main lobby of The Suburban Journal at 1714 Chester Avenue, St. Louis. The answers may also be found in the Journal newspapers on January 31, 1999.
2. You must be 18 or older to enter and win.
3. **HOW TO ENTER:** The contest will appear in the Colossal Classified Section January 1, 1999. Entries must be submitted in writing and may be mailed or hand-delivered to Colossal Classifieds Contest, The Suburban Journal, 1714 Chester Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63131. Complete the attached entry form and answer all questions correctly to be eligible to win. **All ten questions, and their correct answers, will be posted January 31, 1999, Colossal Classifieds Section.** You may also enter by printing both the questions and the answers on separate sheets of paper, attaching a printed name, signature, address along with your day and night telephone numbers. Enter as many times as you like, but only one envelope. Winners will be selected through a random drawing from all correct entries received, with the odds of winning determined by the number of entries. All entries must be received by Noon, Friday, February 5, 1999.
4. A complete list of winners will be published in the Sunday, February 21, 1999, edition of the Suburban Journals. The contest is void where state and local laws and void where prohibited by law. The publishers reserve the right to cancel the promotion at any time without prior notice. All taxes are the sole responsibility of the winners.
5. By participating in the Colossal Classifieds Contest, the entrants agree to be bound by the contest rules; agree that the decision of the judges shall agree to permit the use of their names and photographs in the Suburban Journals.
6. Employees of the Suburban Journals, Altair Travel and Cruises, Westfield Shoppingtowns, Champions On Ice, Kiel Center, Schnucks Markets and their members are not eligible to win.
7. **PRIZES:** One grand prize winner wins the trip for two to Fort Myers, Florida, PLUS tickets to see Champions On Ice, (winner must be in Fort Myers on March 31 in order to attend and see show). 25 1st place winners will receive 4 tickets to Champions On Ice at the Kiel Center on May 5, 1999. 25 - 2nd place winners will receive a \$25 - 2nd place Champions On Ice Shoppingtowns Gift Certificate; 25 - 3rd place winners will receive a Champions On Ice T-shirt; 100 - 4th place winners will receive a voucher from Schnucks Markets for a 1-gallon of Schnucks.